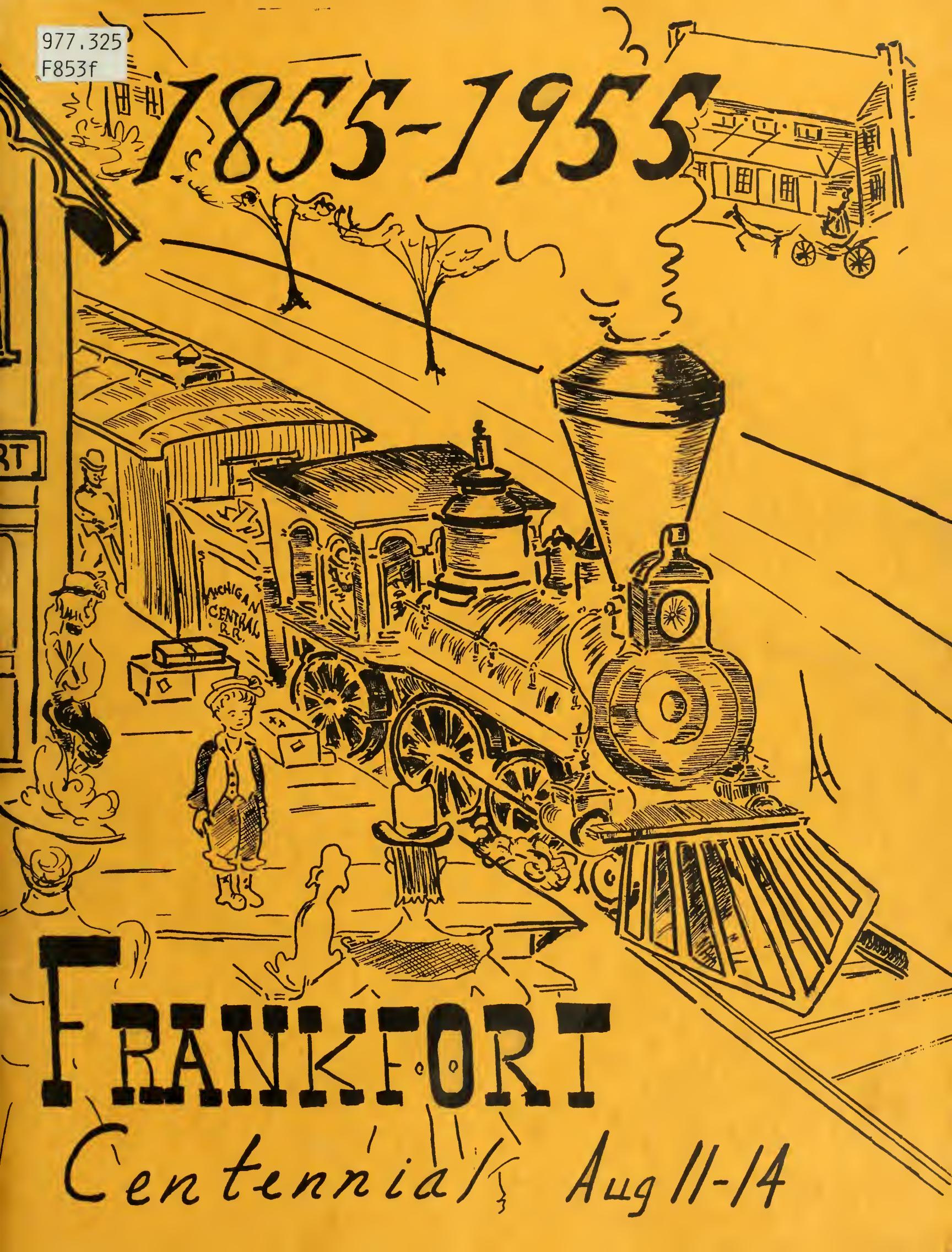


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1855-1955



FRANKFORT

Centennial, Aug 11-14

Preface

*T*he purpose of this book is to give concise information regarding people, places and happenings during the last century.

Our debts in the preparation of this book are many. Without the help and kindness of friends supplying data and pictures, the assembling of same would have been impossible.

In a popular book of this nature it has not been thought necessary to document every statement, but the reader may be assured that the information here given is as near correct as the writers have been able to ascertain.

As for the treatment given each entry, every effort has been made to provide information most likely to be sought by the average reader of to-day.

The names and data have been selected as objectively as possible. The selections have been made from former files, histories, newspapers and general periodicals. These records contain many times the number of names that could be included. The writers are neither so naive nor so opinionated as to think their selections flawless. Any errors or omissions in the selection of material we hope will be overlooked.

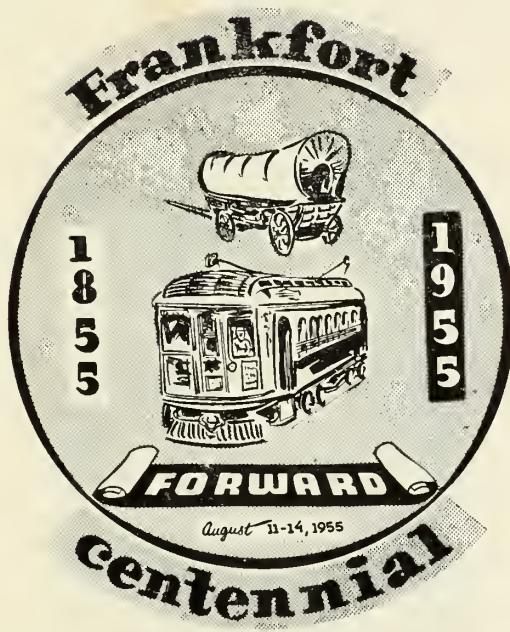
The book is planned to provide the greatest amount of information of value to the largest number of readers.

To all the people who furnished any material, the writers wish to express their grateful appreciation. Also the members of the Centennial Committee wish to express their thanks to everyone who worked on any committee, and were concerned in any way in making our Centennial celebration a success.

Centennial General Committee
Historical Program Committee

FRANKFORT CENTENNIAL

August 11 through August 14, 1955



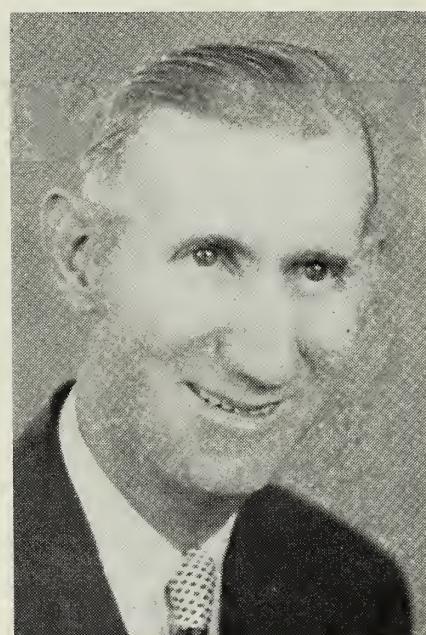
This Centennial Celebration is sponsored by the citizens of Frankfort for the surrounding communities to participate with them in honoring the people and events to be remembered in their village's 100 years of existence.

We Welcome You

*Village President
and
Board of Trustees*



Frankfort Village Hall—1955



George Sangmeister—Mayor



Frankfort Village Board

Left to right: W. Weitendorf, C. Reils, J. Topp, L. Hansen, W. Pfaff, C. Heisner, G. Sangmeister, A. Heusner, W. DePorto, G. Warning, M. Subbert

Frankfort Centennial 1955

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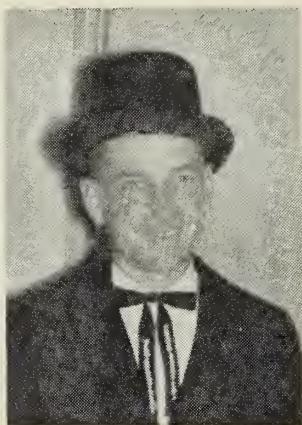
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BOB TRUMP } *Co-Chairmen*

DIVISION CHAIRMEN



Al Hochberger



Jerry Osmus



Herb Lambrecht



Art Lambrecht



Paul Lambrecht



Wendell Morrison

FINANCE DIVISION



Standing, left to right: N. Blaylock, C. Reils, C. Wieringa, B. Breidert
 Seated: W. Baumgartner, A. Heusner, P. Harnack, A. Hochberger



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Standing, left to right: L. Kohlhagen, L. Ebert
 Seated: D. Freeh, J. Osums, G. Tate

PUBLICITY DIVISION



Standing, left to right: L. Hansen, H. Lambrecht, A. Krusemark
Seated: K. Heisner, I. Harmening

SPECTACLE DIVISION



Standing: V. Hansen, G. Sangmeister, Jr., W. Bettenhausen
Seated: A. Lambrecht, M. Otto

SPECIAL EVENTS DAY



D. Melcher, R. Neiland, P. Lambrecht, B. Schram

HOSPITALITY DIVISION



W. Morrison, R. Trump, A. Bauch, J. Pease

CENTENNIAL DOLLS



Standing, left to right: C. Folkers, E. Seemann, L. Breidert, V. Osmus, I. Hedges
Seated: B. Heisner

CHAIRMEN OF YOUTH WORKERS



Y. Piepenbrink, A. Mark, Jr., A. Mager

The Story of Frankfort

LOOKING back 100 years, the village of Frankfort, located on the highest spot between Chicago and the Mississippi River, experienced its first growth in 1855 with the laying out of a plat by S. W. Bowen, who owned 80 acres of land, part of which was embraced in the village. It received its name from a Mr. Cappel, whose native city was Frankfort-on-the-Main in Germany. Incorporation was filed in August of 1879 and the first election held in September of the same year. John McDonald was the first Village President and L. M. Clayes was the first Clerk.

As early as 1831, settlers arriving from New England via the old Sauk Trail, which bisects the village, had given the name of Chelsea to a location one mile west of Frankfort and established a post office there on the L. M. Clayes homestead. It was laid out by Charles Clayes and M. C. Farwell, but was abandoned in 1848. Later it was moved to the Matthew Van Horne place, now a forest preserve site on Route 30. Near here still stands the old "Brick Tavern" built in 1845 by the grandfather of the late George Letts. It served as a refuge for slaves en route to Canada during the Civil War. These early settlers, returning again after the Blackhawk War, included the Owenes, Carpenters, Dotys, Bowens, Letts', Rices, Stephens, and Clayes, whose names are found on markers in nearby cemeteries.

It was in 1855 that the Joliet & Northern Indiana Railroad ran a line through Frankfort connecting it with Joliet to the west, to Gary and Chicago Heights, then Bloom, to the east. Later it became the property of the Michigan Central Railroad. Old timers remember the "Dinky" which ran twice daily.

N. A. Carpenter established the first general store, which also served as the post office. This building still stands and for many years was the business place of

John Kohlhagen, dry goods and grocery merchant. Mr. Carpenter also built the first grain elevator in 1856, which burned in 1878.

The year 1855 also marked the building of the first hotel by a man named Doud. It burned within a few years and was rebuilt by Ambrose Doty on the same

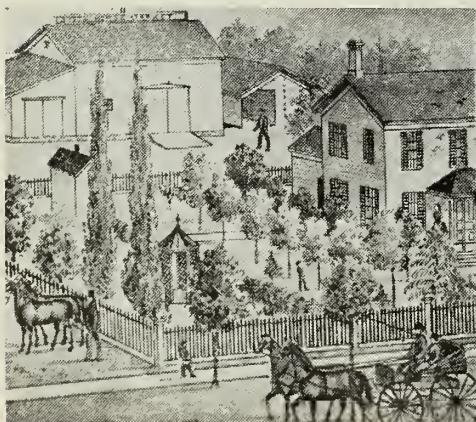


"The Dinky" Michigan Central Railroad

site. He was succeeded by the partnership of Letts & Williams. Later for many years it was operated as the Folkers hotel.

The earliest settlers of Frankfort realized the importance of giving their children an education; so, although money was scarce, funds were somehow raised to open the first school. It was only a crude one room log cabin, taught by a young woman named Lizzie

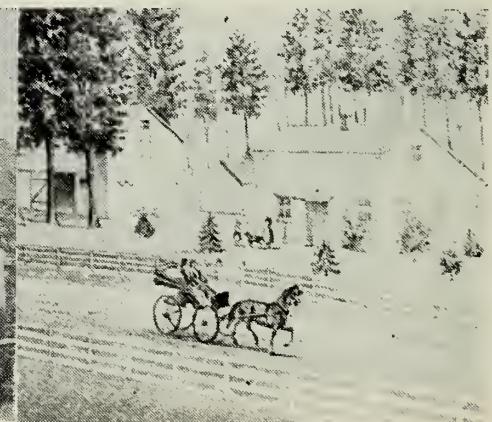
HOMES OF EARLY SETTLERS



Residence of Levi Doty



Residence of Ebenezer Stephen



Residence of L. M. Clayes



ONE OF THE OLD LANDMARKS
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MARK'S SPOT-LITE
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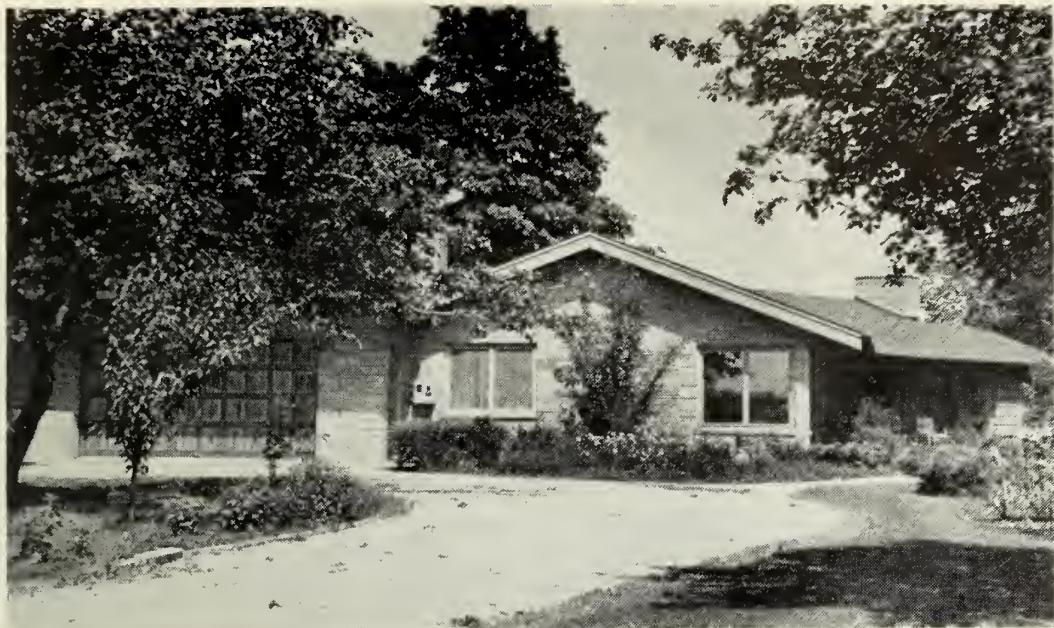
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Letts & Williams Hotel

Kent; nevertheless, it laid the foundation for better and larger schools. Later teachers were Mrs. Hiram Wood, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Josiah Carpenter.

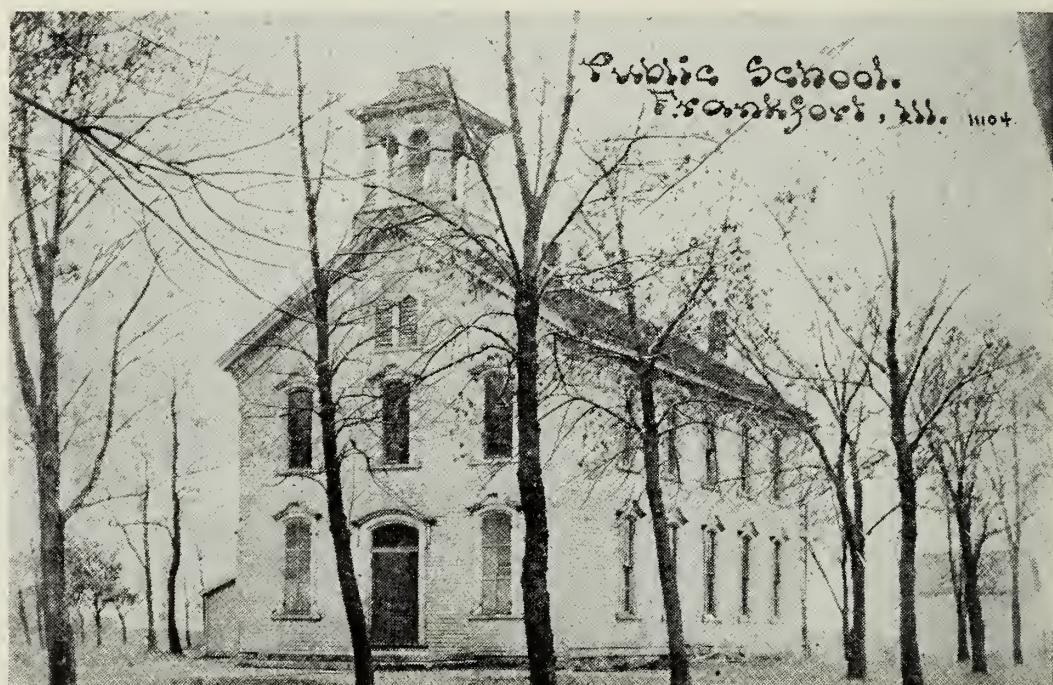
As the village progressed and more families settled here, the little one room school became overcrowded. A two story frame structure, containing three classrooms, was constructed in 1870 at a cost of \$5,000. This building was located on the site of the present school. There was an enrollment of 150 pupils. Professor O. P. Blatchley was the first principal and Miss Mattie Raver one of the first teachers. Many present day local residents received their education in this frame building.

When the state began setting higher standards for schools, the old building proved inadequate to meet these standards and a newer, modern building became a necessity. Conse-

quently 1925 saw the erection of the present school building at a cost of \$35,000. It contained three modern classrooms, a large auditorium, and two large playrooms. Mr. B. C. Saulman was the first principal in this building, with Miss Viola Lankencu teaching the intermediate department and Mrs. Jessie E. C. Ford the primary department.

Realizing the need of facilities for recreational and physical education purposes, the community voted to build a gymnasium adjoining the school. This addition was built in 1938, and is today one of the largest and finest gymnasiums found in a grade school in this county. Most of the village, school, and social events are held in this fine gymnasium.

Continuous growth of the community caused increased enrollment of students, and the three classrooms could not accommodate this increase. Consequently, the auditorium was converted into two class-



Old Frankfort School

rooms, a principal's office was constructed, and the playrooms provided three more classrooms plus a kitchen.

At present the enrollment is approximately 225 students with eight teachers and a principal. Miss Viola Lankencu is principal, a position she has held for the past fourteen years. Mr. LeRoy Wright is the eighth grade teacher and athletic instructor; Mrs. Margaret Robertson, grade 5; Mrs. Charlotte Love, grade 4; Mrs. Virginia Osmus, grade 3; Mrs. Dorothy Woodman, grade 2, and Miss Isabella Harmening, grade 1. At present a 6th and a 7th grade teacher are in the process of being hired.

Frankfort School has a very active P. T. A. This association has always co-operated to the fullest extent, and has been of invaluable aid to the school personnel. Mrs. Emanuel Engelmann is the present president.

The school is governed by a Board of Education consisting of seven members of which Vernon Hansen is president and Lester Heisner secretary. Other members are Dr. Carl Marienfeld, Clarence Waldvogel, George Tate, Richard Schoeling, and Walter Mark.

Throughout the years Frankfort was part of a non-high school area. Students attended high school at Joliet Township High School or Bloom Township High School. Tuition was paid by the school district but transportation was not provided. When the educational department of our state began suggesting the dissolving of non-high



Viola Lankencu—Principal of Frankfort School

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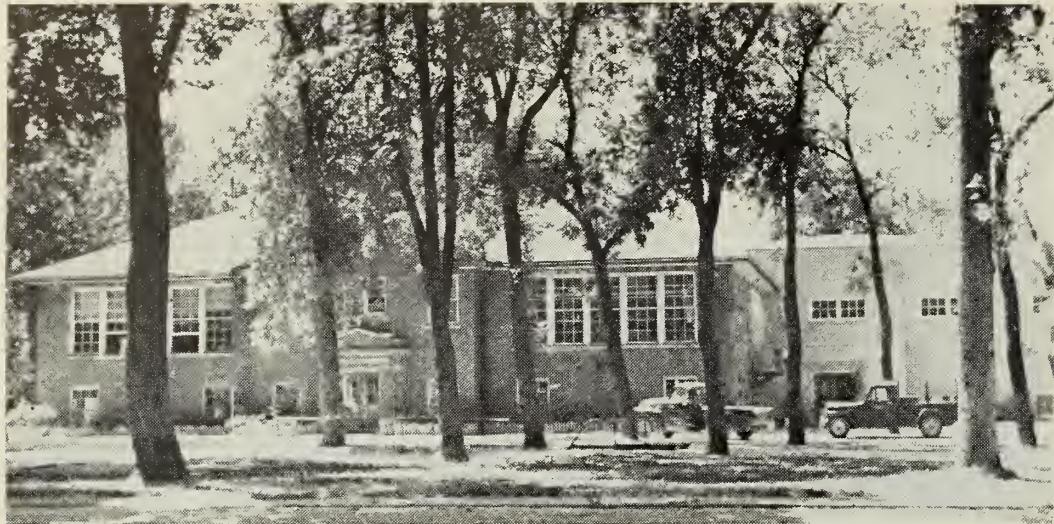
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Frankfort, Illinois



Frankfort Elementary School

areas, the four towns in this area, Frankfort, Manhattan, Mokena, and New Lenox, plus the surrounding territory, formed a new high school area and built one of the most modern and best equipped schools of this age. Said school is located on the Lincoln Highway at the center of this district. It has been named the Lincoln-Way Community High School, and classes were first held in September, 1954. During its first year of operation it has become widely recognized. Mr. A. Hunter Chapman is the superintendent.

The first Methodist services were held as early as 1836 in the home of pioneer Ambrose Doty, but it was in 1856 that a church, the first in the township, was built at a cost of \$2,000. The first sermon was preached by a circuit rider, the Rev. S. R. Beggs, who was known throughout the county. The dedication sermon was preached by the Rev. Samuel Hawes. During the 1870's the pastor, the Rev. G. K. Hoover, published "The Christian Neighbor," a monthly. The present Methodist church was erected in 1908 and a parsonage built in 1925. Present pastor is the Rev. Benjamin Day.

A Baptist church was built in 1863 on the corner of Hickory and Nebraska Streets. David Letts was the first pastor. It was in this church that the first members of

St. Peter's Evangelical Church worshipped until the congregation built its own church in 1867. The Rev. T. Walter was its first pastor. Pastor F. Menzel of the mother church in Green Garden, conducted the earlier services at the Baptist church. The pastor with the longest tenure, the late Rev. G. A. Lambrecht, who served 37 years, christened, confirmed, and married many of the older residents of the village. He was the last pastor to conduct the full term parochial school. It was during his pastorate that the present structure was erected in 1915 at a cost of \$20,000. The present pastor is



Lincoln-Way Community High School

Lincoln-Way Community High School

the Rev. Erich Bizer. The parsonage was built in 1926.

Hand drawn hose carts were used in 1884 when Herbert McDonald was the fire chief. In 1923 a Model T Ford truck, a chemical outfit, was purchased. An American La France engine was added in 1938. Auxiliary equipment was added recently. Fred Kohlhagen is the present chief.

Music culture was introduced into the village in 1875 with the formation of a singing society known as the Frankfort Germania Saengerbund. The first board of directors included Martin Muff, Jacob Muller, C. F. Baumann, and George Fink. The group built a two-story hall on Ash Street which served as a voting place and was the scene of lodge meetings, dances and athletic events until it was razed in 1940, when the present village hall was built.

Brass bands were organized in 1880 and 1897. A school band was formed in 1930 and many of this group were in the band which played at the Chicago World's Fair in 1934. It was reorganized in 1938 and again in 1953.

By 1870 Frankfort was a thriving community with four general stores owned by Louis and Joseph Claus, Benedict Baumgartner, Jacob Mueller, and Bernard Balchowsky. Other businesses included A. B. Barker's drug store, Thomas Herschbach's hardware store, Stephens Brothers' agricultural implements factory, Johnson Folkers' meat market, Nettles and



Second Year Class of German School under Rev. Lambrecht, 1890



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Congratulations and Greetings

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Frankfort Brass Band

Rapp brewery, H. P. Bock's harness shop and the wagon and carriage shops of Frederick Block and Phillip Klepper.

Eisenbrandt and Heisner, McKeowan, Osman, and Schoenherr were the village blacksmiths and the four shops were kept busy with work brought from the entire community surrounding the village.

Jacob Baumgartner was in the cheese business, Levi Doty dealt in horses and hay, William Logan had a machine shop, John McDonald and D. W. Hunter had elevators, and C. F. Baumann and John Muff were tavern owners.

The Baumann Tavern, a landmark in the village, was built in 1868 and is operated by Charles Baumann, who at 89 is Frankfort's oldest businessman. The tavern was the scene of many a dance and masquerade ball, the entire upper floor, at that time, being devoted to a dance floor..

The earliest practicing physician was Dr. N. P. Holden, who made many of his calls on horseback. Best remembered are those that followed in later years, Dr. Emil Haass, Dr. N. D. Hamlin, and Dr. W. V. Hedges. The present Hedges Clinic, one of the finest in the county, was named for Dr. W. V. Hedges, who has recently retired. He has probably delivered the majority of the village's "babies" whose ages range from 5 or 6 to 47.

Early nursing in the village and surrounding countryside was done by Mattie Barker, who trained in the

days before state laws required a three-year course. Mrs. Albert Dammann was a practical nurse and midwife whose presence brought comfort to hundreds of patients in her long career. Mrs. Clara Leppla Krueger was the first nurse to complete a three-year course and to earn the registered nurse degree in 1905. She resides in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

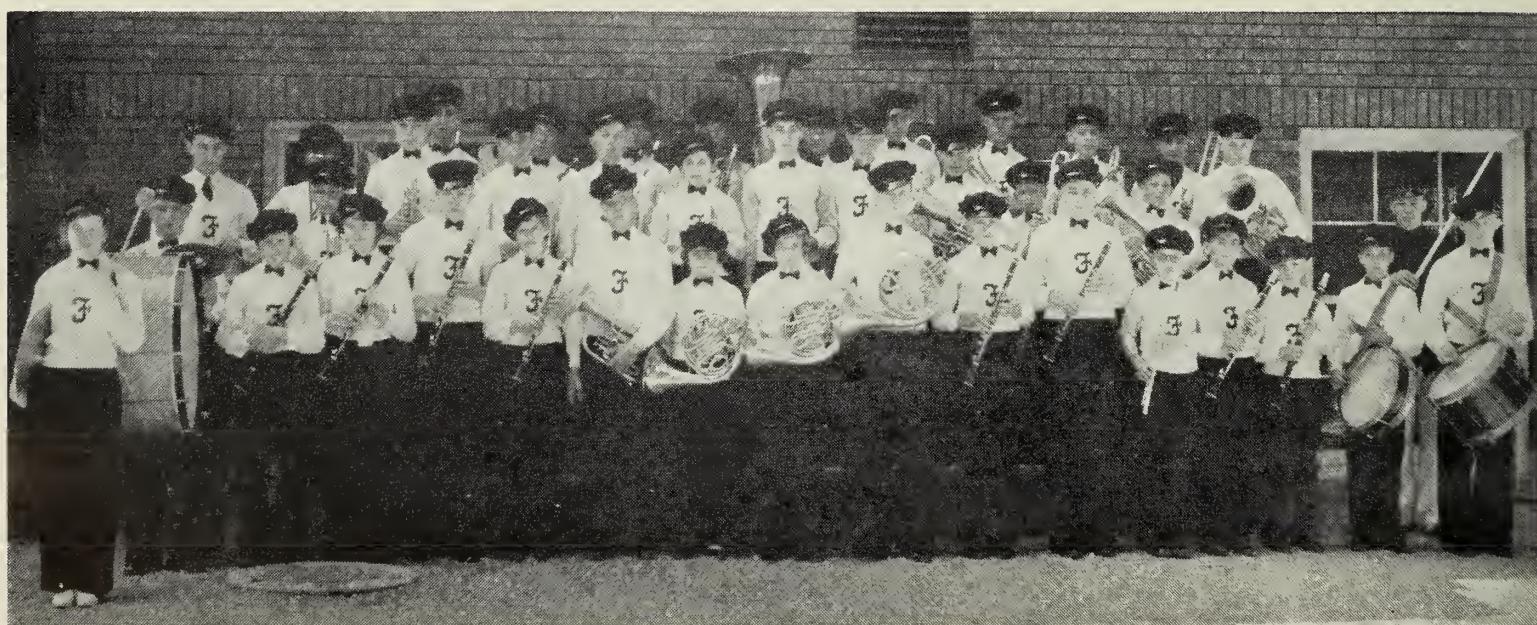
The E. J. & E. Railroad, located at the southern end of the village, was built in 1889. Business flourished and in 1910 a double track was built. Over this freight route much of the merchandise used in the village was shipped. A full time depot agent was employed, also a man to run the pumping station, as most of the steam engines took on water at Frankfort.

In 1904 locomotive No. 67 and its crew had the honor to pull the train of Theodore Roosevelt from Aurora to Joliet. Distance 22 miles, time 22 minutes. Quite a record for those days!

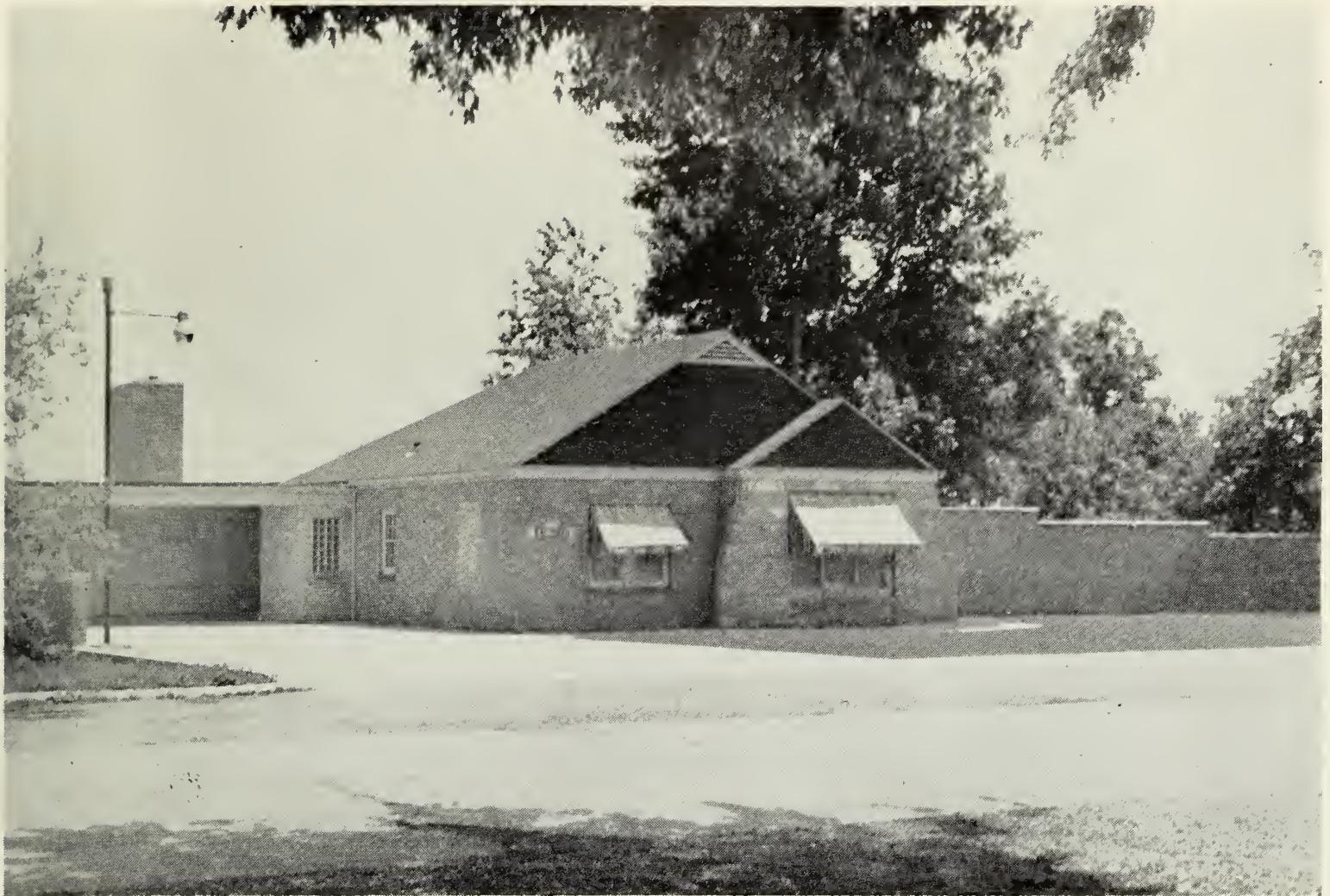
In 1949 all steam engines were taken off and new diesel engines took over. The depot and water tank has been removed, but the pumping station has been purchased by the village and has become part of the village's water system.

About the year 1912 a great National Highway, to extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans, and named in honor of Abraham Lincoln, was being proposed. This highway, as first planned, would have entered the village by way of Sauk Trail and proceeded through the center of the town of Joliet. Later the route was fixed one-half mile north of town. The street car line from Frankfort to Joliet followed the Lincoln Highway on most of its route. All along this proposed route Lincoln Highway Associations were organized. An auxiliary of this National Association was organized at Joliet. C. A. Noble was president, and John J. Mack, secretary. To become a member of this group one contributed a quarter. Many Frankfort people joined and received certificates so stating. Many of these certificates are still in the hands of the contributors. The section of the Lincoln Highway in northern Illinois was built in 1920. It is today one of the heaviest traveled highways in the country.

In 1880 H. S. Barker organized the first bank, which in 1899 was robbed of \$1,800 by five masked men who



Frankfort Band—1934. Roderick White, Director



M. J. BUCKLEY, M. D.

229 White Street

Frankfort, Illinois





W. V. Hedges Office and Residence 1907



Dr. W. V. Hedges, the first in line of the present Frankfort physicians, started practice here on July 5, 1908. After many years of faithful service Dr. Hedges sought aid and Dr. Hiroshige came to Frankfort in 1941. In 1946 Dr. Hiroshige returned to his native Hawaii. Dr. Claude Otto, University of Nebraska graduate with the aid of Dr. Hedges started the Hedges Clinic in 1946. In June of 1948 Dr. W. H. Cave, University of Vanderbilt, was added to the staff and subsequently retired in 1954 to attend the University of Pennsylvania. In July of 1951 Dr. J. H. Lambert, University of Illinois, joined the Clinic and served until August of 1953.

Dr. Hedges

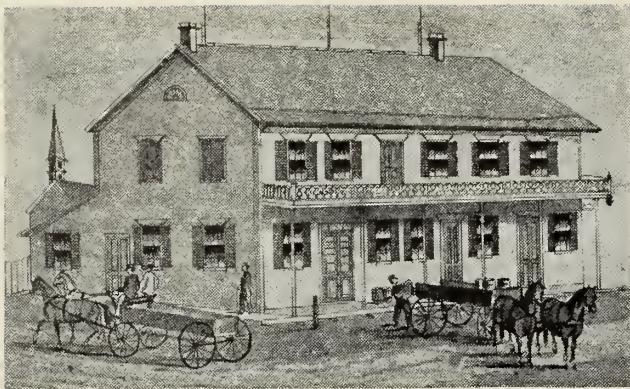


Hedges Clinic Building 1955

During 1951 the Clinic building was remodeled and many facilities were added. Again in 1953 more remodeling was done and the building was doubled to the present size.

Dr. J. R. Cummings, University of Cincinnati was added in June, 1953, and remained until April 25, 1955, when he left for a surgical residency at Cincinnati General Hospital. Dr. M. L. Otto, University of Nebraska, joined the staff in July, 1953. Dr. O. J. Novata, University of Illinois, was added to the staff as was Dr. Irving Rudman, Yale University, July of 1954. At present the Clinic maintains four full time doctors and occasionally seeks the help and wisdom of Dr. Hedges who retired in 1948.





Baumann Tavern—1868

tied and bound the constable, William Knippel. A year later the Citizen's Bank was formed by Fred C. Hasenjaeger.

One of the village's most destructive fires occurred in 1910 when the Folkers Brothers livery barn burned to the ground. Many horses perished along with the dearly loved ponies of the Folkers children. The old Union Hall south of the barn was also destroyed.

In 1913 the first electrical power was brought to the village. Years before, D. E. Brand and William Knippel served as the lamp-lighters. Gas mains were installed in 1927.

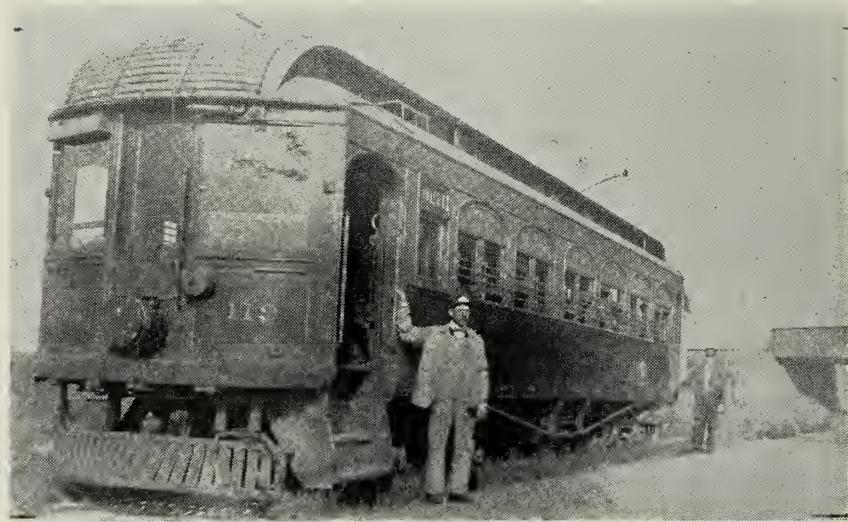
The Joliet and Eastern traction company began services between Joliet and Chicago Heights in 1908 and discontinued it in 1928 after the building of hard roads and the increased use of the automobile.

World War I saw most of our young men serving Uncle Sam, either here in the United States or overseas. Again in World War II the young men responded to the call of their country. This time many young women also joined the service to do their bit. Even the children formed an organization called The Victory Club to contribute their efforts. Frankfort was blessed, since at the close of the war, the majority of our young people were able to return to their homes in this community. In 1946 an American

Legion was organized and named in honor of the two young men who made the supreme sacrifice, their lives—namely, Donald Swinford and Stanley Bobzin. For many years it has been the custom to honor the dead from all past wars who are buried in our local cemetery. School children decorate the graves with flowers and the Legion conducts the memorial ceremony.

Frankfort's Business Enterprises — Past and Present

It is interesting to follow the progress and the changes that a century of time have brought about in many varied ways. The rise and fall of many businesses can be attributed to the



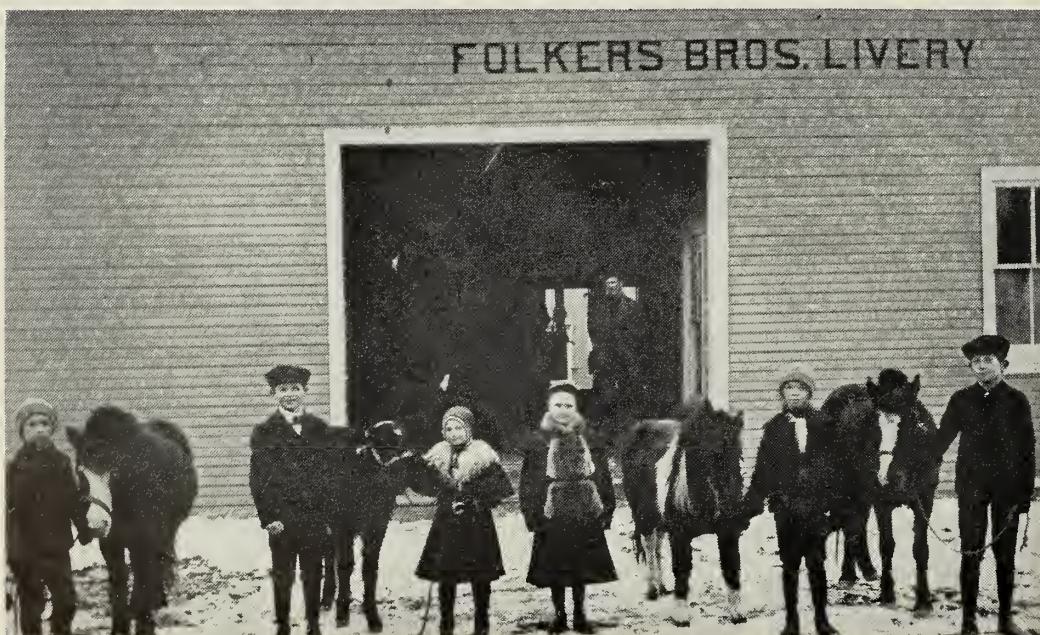
Streetcar Near Wabash R.R.

same changing times. The earliest enterprises established when Frankfort was first settled have already been enumerated. It should be of general interest to trace through following years the changes in types of occupations and the use of buildings, since many of the original stores are still in use today. In doing so, one can readily see how business activity continued

growing to the point where it provided all the needs of the community. Then with the advent of better and quicker transportation, local business could not compete with the larger city stores. So, as in all small towns today, Frankfort's businesses operate on a smaller scale, but still provide many of the needs of its people.

The following information may be thought of as a series of conducted tours through our village business district taken at varied intervals from its early years up to the present date.

Bernard Balchowsky first conducted his business with a pack on his back, selling merchandise to the townspeople and those on nearby farms. Later he used a horse and wagon in order to cover more



Children of Folkers Brothers



1868 – 1955

THE BAUMANN TAVERN

IN BUSINESS 87 YEARS



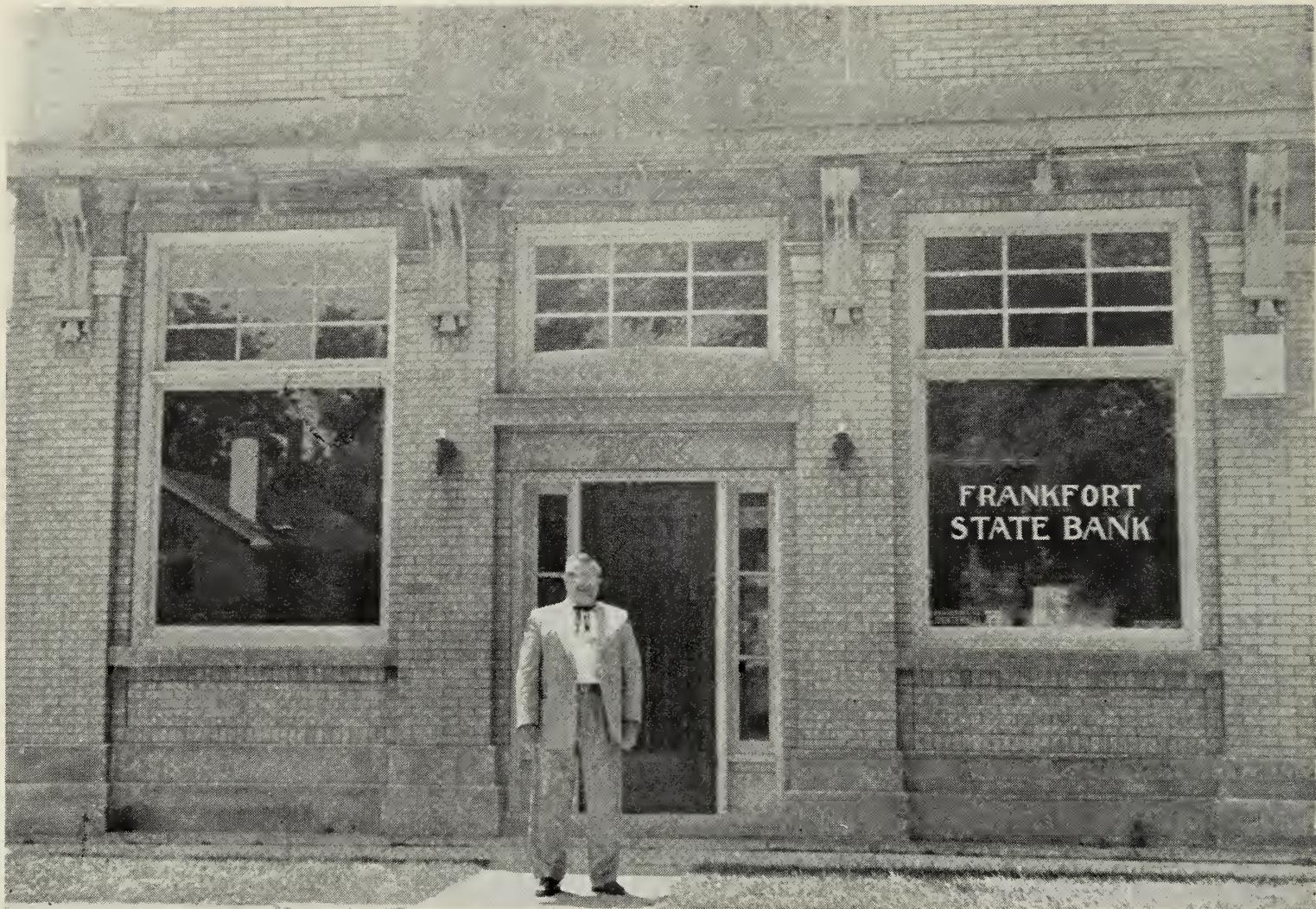
The same corner

The same building

The same family



C. P. BAUMANN, Proprietor



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FRANKFORT, ILLINOIS

Growing with the Frankfort Community Since 1913



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Alvin Bruggeman
George Tate

Arthur C. Bauch
Leroy Mager
Al Hochberger



EMPLOYEES

Al Hochberger
Robert Schulz

Marilyn McManimen
Marian Hochberger

A group of citizens saw the need for the Frankfort State Bank and proceeded to organize the Bank the first part of June, 1913.

The first Stockholders meeting was held June 30, 1913, and elected the following Directors — William Lankenau, Fred Warning, Max F. Haas, Frank J. Kohlhagen, Charles H. Balchowsky, John A. Luhring, Jacob P. Bauch, Henry R. Eisenbrandt, and Edward J. Conley.

The first Officers were William Lankenau, President; Fred Warning, Vice President, and John A. Luhring, Cashier.

The Bank started with \$25,000.00 paid in Capital and started operating in the office of Warning's Garage August 27, 1913, to the following January when the new building was completed.

The Capital structure at present consists of \$50,000.00 Capital, \$40,000.00 Surplus, \$45,000.00 Undivided Profits and \$12,000.00 Reserve. The Deposits at the end of the first year were \$70,000.00 and have grown steadily over the years and are now over \$2,000,000.00. The Bank did not close or waive deposits during the great depression in 1933.

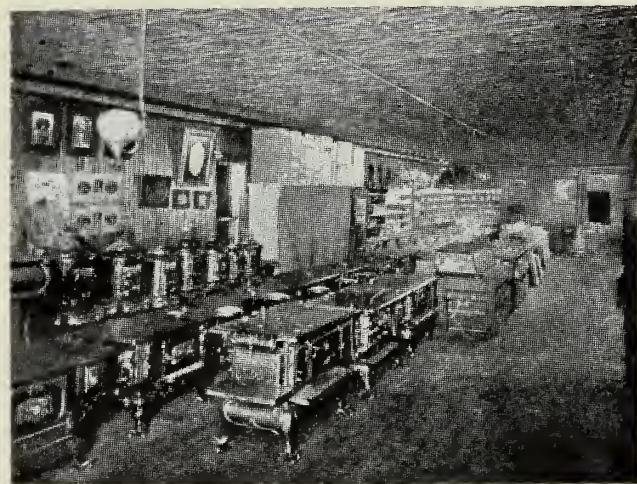
Mr. Luhring continued as Cashier from the beginning of the Bank until his death in 1951. Mr. Al Hochberger came here from Iowa in 1952, to take over the management of the Bank as Cashier. Mr. William Lankenau was an employee for many years and is now deceased. Other former employees and still living in the community are Mrs. Albert Krusemark, Jr., Mrs. Fred Kohlhagen, and Miss Ruth Minger.

Many changes have been made in operations over the years starting with pen posted books. Hand posting was done until 1933, when a second hand posting machine was purchased. Since then a new machine was secured and now the bookkeeping is done with machines. A Checking account customer used to leave his deposit book to be balanced and pick up his book with cancelled checks a few days later. Now the customer calls for his cancelled checks which are handed to him together with a printed statement.

In recent years considerable improvements have been made on the Bank Building and fixtures have been remodeled to keep up with the growth in business and render better service to the customers.

territory. As business increased, he was able to open a small store, which was erected where Melcher's Clover Farm store now stands. He continued to expand by building a large department store which provided the community with most of its needs. When his sons, Charles, Moses, and Harry were grown, he took them into the partnership, then known as B. Balchowsky & Sons. Upon his retirement, his sons continued the business. In later years Harry Balchowsky managed the business as a general store on a smaller scale, renting out half of the building. Later he sold the entire building to Arthur Bauch, who remodeled it completely. It now consists of a Frozen Foods Locker, Super Market, Bowling Alley, and Lunch Counter.

The first general store, established by N. A. Carpenter, has not changed hands very often during this 100 years but has been remodeled several times. Benedict Baumgartner sold it to John Kohlhagen, who went into partnership



Interior of Balchowsky's Department Store

with his son, Frank. After the death of his father, Frank Kohlhagen continued alone, completing almost 40 years before retiring. For a time it was occupied by McArthur's Hatchery. Then Leroy Mager and Henry Mark rented the building as a grocery store. For the last ten years Conrad Mark has owned it, and it is now known as the Spot-Lite Grocery.

The first undertaker in the community was G. A. Weinmann, who also operated a furniture store in the front part of the building. His successor was Ed Hellerman, who in turn sold to Bernard Zechlin. In recent years, the latter's son, Alfred, has taken over the business, using the rear building for a wood-working shop. At present, part of it is rented to an optometrist, O. M. Tobey, O.D.

The store originally built by the Claus Brothers has seen many changes. Feil & Deist continued in the store business. Succeeding him through the years in this enterprise were John Staff, Fred Baumgartner, William Koerner, and Robert Stephen. The latter is one of our oldest residents and was postmaster for 20 years. The building has changed occupants frequently in



Victory Club

recent years. The present owner is Mrs. Walters, and it is once more the location of the postoffice, with Leroy Mager as Postmaster.

The present side of the Frankfort Tavern, owned by the Norton Blaylocks, has also been used for several different kinds of businesses since its erection. It was built by A. B. Barker for a drug store and postoffice. For many years Max Haass operated a drug store where the tavern now is. When he sold the building to Charles Peters and Henry Stellwagen (later Peters sold his share to Charles Scheer) for a general store, he moved his drug store next door where the Lincoln Cafe is now located. This part had previously been a millinery shop operated by Emma Borms, who later sold the business to Myrtle Arvidson Gullickson. Following that the George Busses' rented it to accommodate a novelty store.

The building now owned by Edward Lauffer for his hardware business was originally built for that purpose, combined with a tin shop, by Thomas Herschbach. The latter's son, Otto, carried on the business for many years. After his death, it was bought by Henry Mark. Since that time, the building has been



Memorial Day Scene at Pleasant Hill



B & M Lumber and Supply Co.

Frankfort

Illinois

Started in 1947, by B. Breidert and W. Morrison,
who are proud to be able to celebrate with
the Village in this Centennial Year.



ALBERT H. KRUSEMARK

Albert H. Krusemark, Sr., was Frankfort's first attorney. He not only spent his early youth in Frankfort, but made his permanent residence there and was well known throughout eastern Will County and the adjoining area as a hard fighting attorney and friend of the common man.

He was born June 16, 1882, in New Lenox Township and spent his early years on the "Hunt" farm. He graduated from Frankfort Grade School in 1898. His parents, Louis Krusemark and Mary Schoop Krusemark, moved the family to Frankfort just before the turn of the century

and lived on the corner of Pacific and Maple Streets, which was their home for all the remaining years of their life.

As a young man he attended Valparaiso University for his preparatory work in law. He then attended Northwestern University Law School. During the summers of these school years, he did various types of work to pay his necessary costs of schooling, including the selling of books and the doing of tiling and construction work. He received his degree of Bachelor of Laws on June 20, 1907, from Northwestern University. He was admitted to the practice of law on October 7, 1908, and had his first law office with Attorney Elisha Meers in the Barber Building, where he maintained his office for his entire 42 years of practice. In 1938 he formed a partnership with his son, Albert H. Krusemark, Jr., with whom he continued the practice of law under the firm name of Krusemark and Krusemark, until his death.

During his legal career he was well known for his tenacity and hard fighting tactics in the court room. He was always the friend of the underdog and always willing to fight the case out. He was a well known authority on drainage law and represented some 28 different drainage districts in eastern Illinois. During the early years of his practice he rode the streetcar from Frankfort to Joliet. Later, as the automobiles appeared he drove to Joliet, his first car being a Willys Knight touring car.

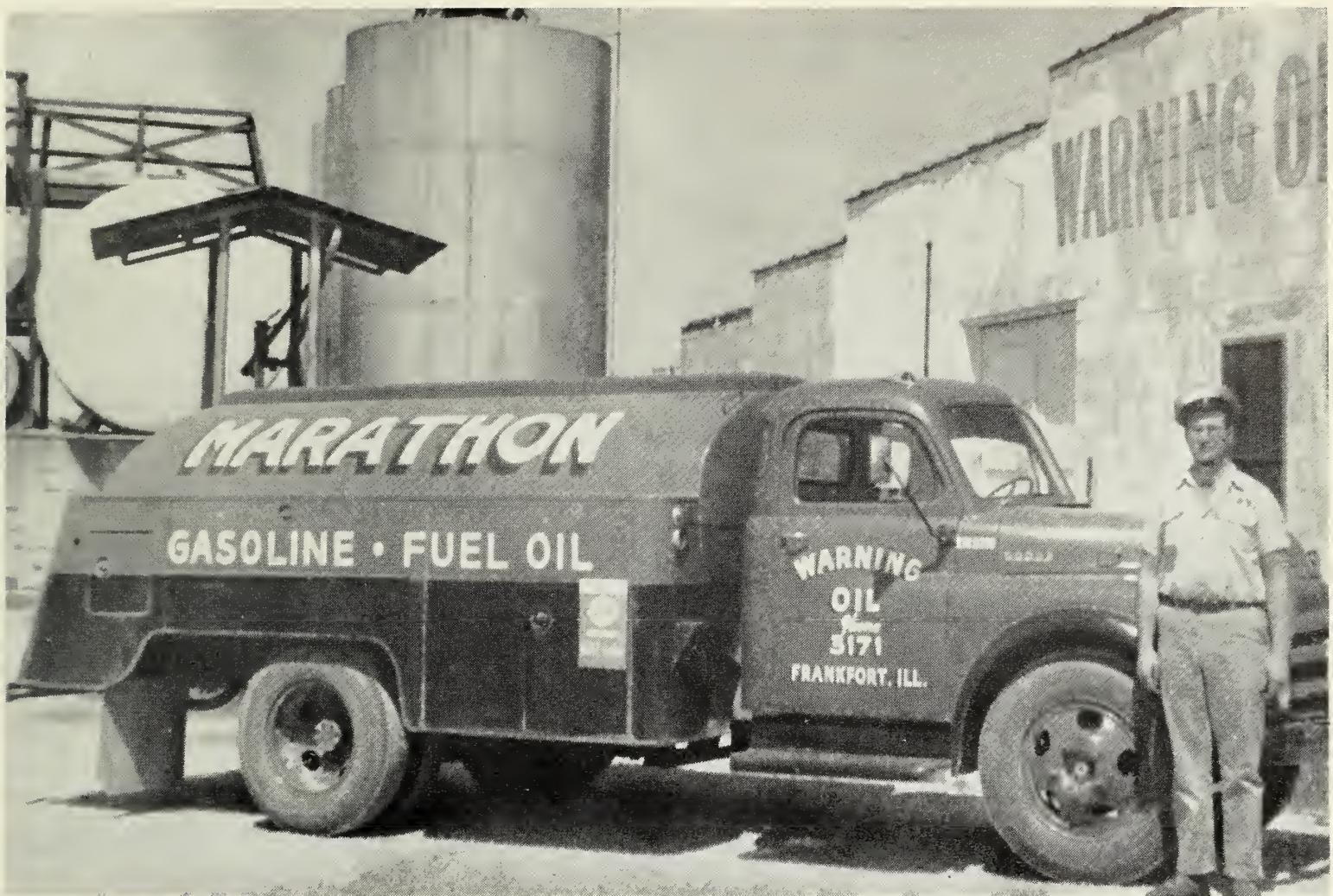
He loved all sports, especially baseball, hunting and fishing. During his youth he was a pitcher for the Frankfort baseball team. In those years they played many traveling semi-pro teams and played to crowds

♦ ♦ ♦

of several thousand. His brother, Fred, was also a pitcher, and it was not unusual for either of them to have thirteen to sixteen strikeouts a game. His interest in baseball never waned. Hunting and fishing came next in his hobbies. Many trips were made to the Kankakee River, Romeo and Wisconsin. He especially enjoyed pheasant hunting.

His interest in farming, which he acquired as a boy, never left him. After his marriage to Mary Stellwagen in 1910, he bought a farm at the corner of Harlem Avenue and Lincoln Highway just east of Frankfort and established one of the first purebred Holstein herds in the country.

Active in Republican politics and political campaigns for many years, Mr. Krusemark managed the first campaign of Governor Louis Emmerson. He was a member of the Will County Bar Association, the Shriners, the Masons and the Lions Club. He was a lifelong member of the St. Peter's Evangelical and Reformed Church of Frankfort. During World War II he served on the County Selective Service Board of Appeals and retired from the Will County Zoning Board of Appeals just before his death. He died suddenly of a heart attack on October 22, 1950, leaving his son, Attorney Albert H. Krusemark, Jr., of Frankfort, and two daughters, Mrs. Corinne Gerhold of Larchmont, New York, and Roselba. He is perhaps best remembered as described by Judge James V. Bartley of the Circuit Court: "He was a good lawyer, a man strong in his convictions of righteousness and a Christian gentleman."



MARATHON PRODUCTS

Fuel Oils

Gasoline

Motor Oils

Greases

B. F. Goodrich Tires

• • •

Printed Receipt on Fuel-Oil Deliveries

• • •

WARNING OIL

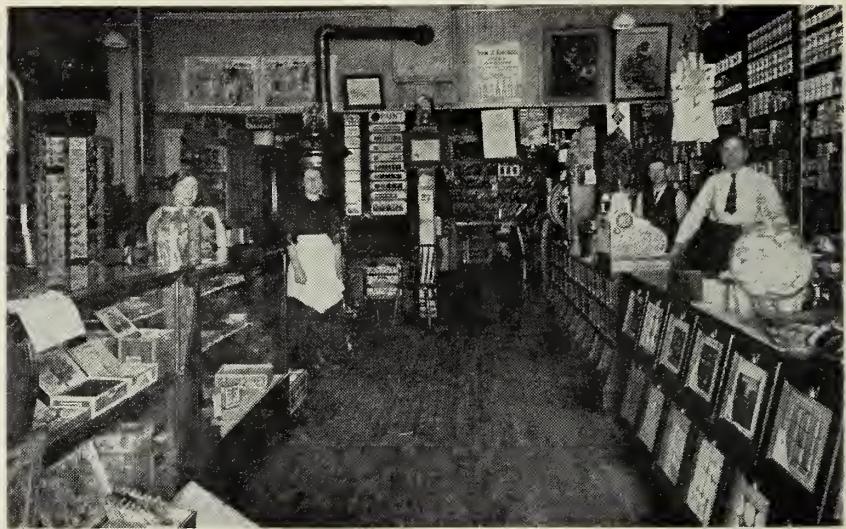
FRANKFORT, ILLINOIS

Residence
Phone 4601

Business
3171

used solely for the hardware business. The residence was later moved to Oregon Street and is now the home of Mrs. Lily Herschbach and the Lawrence Woodmans.

The Folkers Hotel was owned and operated for many years by Johnson Folkers and upon his retirement was taken over by his three sons, William, Frank, and Peter. The partnership formed by these three brothers carried on numerous businesses begun by their father, which were of far reaching influence and importance to this community. A brick building was constructed next to the hotel, mainly to house a new meat market, thus moving their father's former market from the present Knuteson home. This brick structure also provided space for other activities. Through the years, the second floor has been used for a telephone exchange office and the offices of several dentists. At



Frank Kohlhagen and Employees—1914



Koerner and Stephen Store and Postoffice

present it is rented as an apartment. The meat market has been combined with a grocery store by several managers and at present is used for storage. Next door, the section where H. S. Barker had the first bank, and where Robert Stephen was once Postmaster, is now the Frankfort Beauty Shop, operated by Mrs. E. Heavener. Later when the railroads were being laid through this territory, the Folkers Brothers contracted construction for the E. J. & E. tracks. They also did some work building lines for the telephone company and located the first exchange in the front room upstairs in the hotel. The manager of the lines was Frank Folkers and later Henry Dammann. The first switchboard operators were Sadie Dammann Widup and Mabel Folkers Knuteson. Folkers sold the hotel building to Tom Collier for a restaurant and bar. When there was no longer a need for a hotel here, the building was sold to Cavalinni and Dottini, who operated a restaurant and ice cream parlor. Succeeding them as proprietor was Joe Priami. Since his death, Mrs. Priami has carried on the business. The upstairs has recently been remodeled into two apartments. The Folkers Brothers owned a slaughter house on the west end of town and livery stable on the present site of the Trump Chevrolet

Garage. They also erected the Citizen's Bank Building, which now is rented to the S & S Sink Top Company.

The old Stephen implement shop on Smith Street was later operated by the partnership of Weber and Koerner. During the partnerships of Henry Koerner, Fred Heusner, and Adam Heusner the first garage was established. Here the first automobiles of the village were sold and repaired. Later the partnership of Heusner and Mager rented the new brick building built by the Folkers Brothers, after the livery stable burned down. Here farming implements were also sold. In recent years the business was sold to Walter Haas and is now owned by Robert Trump. In earlier years this garage sold Fords and Willis-Overlands and in recent years has had the Chevrolet agency. For several years International Harvester implements were also sold.

The wooden structure which formerly served as the old streetcar barn was bought by Arthur Bauch to establish a garage, selling and repairing automobiles and farm implements.

Later he built a brick addition north of the old building for an office and showroom. He has sold Hudson and Essex cars and now has agencies for Ford and Allis Chalmers.

A brick garage was built next to Fred Werner's



Thomas Herschbach Hardware Store and Residence



O-ACES DRIVE IN

Wilma and Roland Knipper



Tasty Sandwiches

Good Coffee and Malts

"We Eat Here Ourselves"



Routs 45 and 30

Frankfort, Illinois

Trump Chevrolet Sales

Frankfort, Illinois

CHEVROLET FRANCHISE DEALER

for

FRANKFORT, MOKENA AND NEW LENOX



1902 — OUR BIRTHPLACE

We are just an infant

when it comes to celebrating

FRANKFORT'S CENTENNIAL



The First Chevrolet Was Born in



1912

It was a car that did a job at that time and has
continued in progress until today we
are proud to present the

1955 CHEVROLET CORVETTE



Although tomorrow will make this car an
antique, Chevrolet will continue to
engineer to the future.



Meat Market, Exchange Bank and Hotel

Implement Shop by Fred Warning who formed a partnership with his son, Raymond and sold Dodge cars. At present the latter uses the garage in operating the Gold Star Bus Line which runs several times daily from Hammond to Joliet.

The wood-work shop of Ebenezer Stephen was bought by Henry and Fred Klepper in the early 1900's. After Henry died, Fred continued the business alone until his death a few years ago. It now belongs to his widow and is not in operation.

A grain elevator was built by John McDonald on the E. J. & E. Railroad at the site of the former Moldit Factory. During the ownership of Meyers, it burned and he rebuilt it. Later the Frankfort Grain Company bought it, after which Herman Barlewort bought it for salvage.

On the site of the present Grain Company an elevator was built first by D. W. Hunter.

Through the years ownership passed from the partnership of Jurz and Ratche to Borms and Kaiser, later changing to Kaiser and Stellwagen. Then a stock company was formed, and business continued under the management of Henry Luhring for almost 40 years. Since his retirement, the manager has been Wilbur Klier.

The site of the present Frankfort Barber Shop and Wayne's Print Shop, now owned by Wayne DePorto, was originally the Harness Shop of H. P. Bock. When the harness business ended, George Haass opened a barber shop there and later sold it to Charles Pfaff, Sr. The latter used the rear part of the building as a photography studio along with the barber business. His son, Walter, went into partnership with him and carried on the business after his father's death.

The building which is now occupied by the Harwood family, who are remodeling it into



A Scene in the First Garage on Smith Street



Werner's Home and Implement Shop

apartments, was originally a tavern and rooming house built by John Muff. In turn it was owned by John Bobzin, August Wischover, John Bruggeman, and Larry Diedrich.

One of the first general stores, owned by Jacob Mueller, was sold to Conrad Sippel, who conducted a tavern and later a confectionery. It originally served also as a postoffice and since the turn of the century was again used for the same purpose when the building was owned by the Sippel Sisters, Katie and Maggie, and Katie Sippel Fink was postmaster for 20 years. At present Mr. and Mrs. Fink operate a novelty store and news stand. The family has had the agency for the Chicago Tribune for 59 years. The west wing of the building was at one time used for a millinery shop by Myrtle Gullickson.

A man by the name of Weber built the harness shop now owned by George Bettenhausen. He sold the business to Philip Knater who operated the shop for many, many years. At one time Miss Lena Bankow had a dress making

Some of the Oldest Residents of Frankfort



Mrs. Anna Keliher



Mr. and Mrs. Fred Pyle



Mrs. Henry Deist



Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schellhase



Charles Baumann



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stephen



Mrs. John Buck



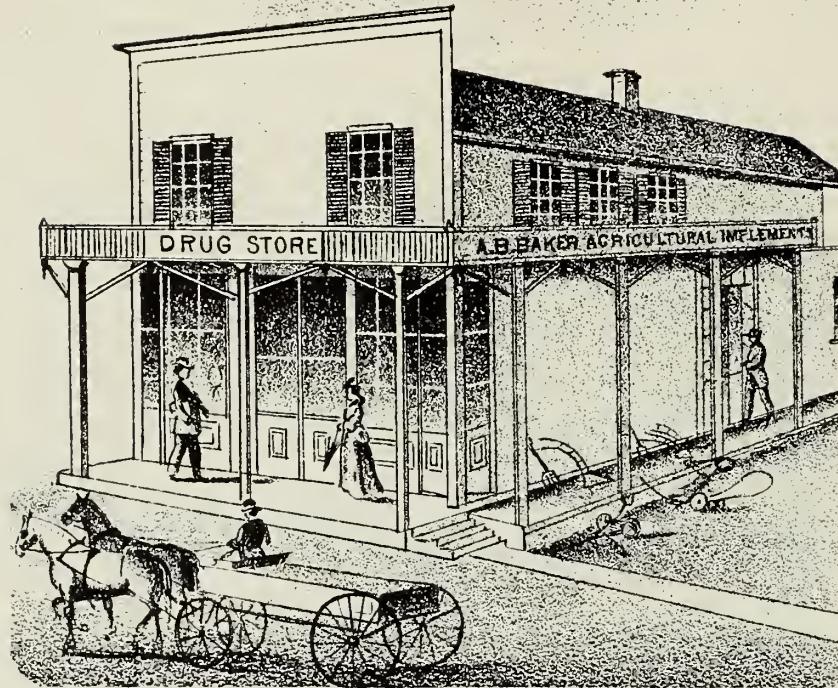
Mrs. Henry Klepper



Gottfried Yoss



Mrs. George Minger



YE OLDE FRANKFORT TAVERN

Built in the 1850's and getting better with age...

"We wouldn't change it for the world"

Owned and Operated by
Gracie Blaylock



Compliments of

S & S SINK TOP COMPANY

Jerry Sager, Owner



Manufacturers of

Formica Cabinet and Sink Tops

114 Kansas Street

FRANKFORT, ILLINOIS

Phone 2752

Do you remember when:

Basketball games were played in the old Woodman Hall, and the balcony which extended on three sides "downed" many an opposing player?

WEBER'S RICH MILK

"Best by Test"



**CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR
100TH BIRTHDAY**

shop and later Mrs. George Haass (nee Knater) had a millinery store in the room at the rear of the shop.

After the dissolution of the Citizen's Bank, the building housing it was used as an electrical store by Mayor Sangmeister. Since the erection of his new building, the old bank has been occupied by the S & S Sink Top Company.

The building east of the Hedges Clinic was built by the stockholders of the State Bank and has continued in that capacity to the present time. Mr. John Luhring served as cashier from the beginning of the bank until his death, a period of 38 years. The present cashier is Mr. Al Hochberger.



Sippel's Ice Cream Parlor

Names of Families which were in the Frankfort Area around the 1900's

Balchowsky	Krusemark	Baumgartner	Herschbach
Folkers	Hasenjaeger	Kohlhagen	Leppla
Baumann	Harnack	Topp	Lankenau
Luhring	Breidert	Doty	Cleveland
Owens	Pfeiffer	Rabe	Rahm
Ruggles	Sanders	Scheer	Weinmann
Harmening	Eichenberg	Bauch	Fink
Gullickson	Logan	Hollstein	Mark
Wilson	Englemann	Caldwell	Bettenhausen
Brockman	McDonald	Lambrecht	
Bock	Lapien	Werner	
McGlashen	Hellerman	Oetter	
Koerner	Hansen	Block	
Zechlin	Staff	Stephen	
Klepper	Feil	Geuther	
Sippel	Pfaff	Eisenbrandt	
Heisner	Ebert	Schroeder	
Marti	Haass	Warning	
Deist	Stellwagen	Wischover	
Clark	Kampe	Bobzin	
Weber	Weitendorf	Knater	
Minger	Walsh	Muff	

Businesses Long Since Gone

Charles Schroeder had an ice cream parlor where Herb Lambrecht's house now stands.

Henry Baumgartner and Martin Forchau had a meat market, Myrtle Gullickson, a millinery store, then Herb Lambrecht an ice cream parlor on the



Harness Shop of H. P. Bock

corner where the Gold Star Busses are now parked.

Christ Buckspeise, then Ed Vollrath had a Barber Shop where Sangmeister Electric Sales is now located.

Fred Werner had an implement shop between the Warning Garage and his home, now owned by Charles Bobzin.

F. W. Michaelis, later Rudd and Heising had a photography studio in the present Bertha Nieland home.

Johnson Folkers had a meat market where the Ernest Knuteson's now live.

Fred Leppla had a shoe store in between the Howard Seeman and the Koerner homes.

Peter Baumann had a cigar store in the west wing of the tavern.

Ferdinand Kramer had a furniture store, later used as a tavern by Henry Harnack, Sr., just west of Baumann's Tavern.

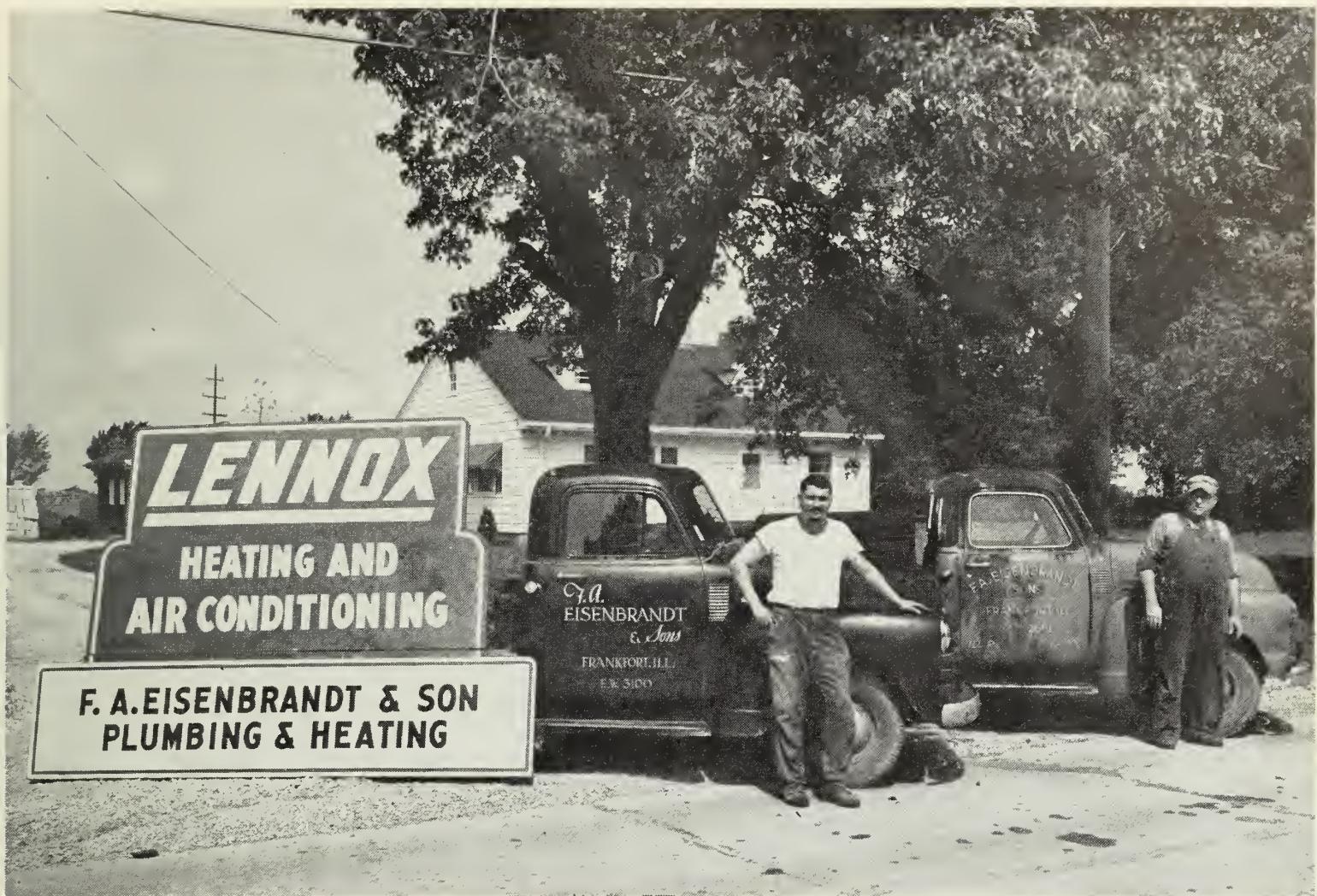
Conrad Sippel had an implement shop, then Henry Koerner a repair shop, on the corner across from the Hedges Clinic.

Dr. Emil Haass, who served as a surgeon in the Civil War, had his office where the Herb Folkers home now stands.

William Logan had an implement shop located



A Friendly Group at Kohlhagen's Store



FRANK A. EISENBRANDT & SON

*Heating • Plumbing • Sheet Metal Work
Air Conditioning*

• **Frankfort, Illinois** •



Eisenbrandt is a name which has been in our community since 1876 when Henry came here and started a blacksmith shop.

In 1924 we started in business and have served the community ever since.

We are pleased to take part and help Frankfort with its Centennial Celebration.

Frankfort Grade School Alumni



Frankfort Public School 1915
Teachers — Edna Elsner, Howard Craig, Viola Hollstein



A Grade School Alumni? Rather unique, isn't it? Yet the Frankfort Alumni held its 48th banquet this June.

In the days before compulsory school attendance laws were in effect, some children left school before finishing 8th grade. Mr. Howard Craig, principal of the school, originated a plan whereby there might be an incentive to children to want to remain in school; so, in 1908, he had the members of the 1907 class and their parents give a banquet for the graduates of the 1908 class and their parents.

From this beginning grew the Grade School Alumni. Every spring the former graduates hold a banquet at which the current graduating class and their parents are guests. It is a time of fellowship and renewing of old acquaintances. Graduates from the first class as well as the last are in attendance.

Mr. Howard A. Craig, the originator of the plan, has been a retired teacher for many years, but usually returns to Frankfort from his home in Winnetka, Illinois, to participate in the activities.



Fred L. Kohlhagen

Lynn F. Kohlhagen

K & K CONCRETE WORKS

Ready-Mixed Concrete

Frankfort, Illinois

Telephone 4541



We opened our place of business on May 4, 1950 to serve this community and surrounding territory with Ready-mixed concrete. At the beginning of 1955 we expanded our business to the making of pre-stressed concrete beams and roof channels for commercial buildings, this branch being known as Prestressed Concrete Structures, Inc. Since that time the hauling and sales of the ready-mixed concrete has been leased to Newkirk Transit Mix of Joliet, Illinois.

We are proud to be a part of this community and happy to help in this Centennial celebration.

on the lot next to his home, the present residence of Lawrence Andrews.

Fred Block and Philip Klepper had a wagon shop where Lloyd Luhring's home now is.

Breidert Brothers and Eisenbrandt had a Lumber and Carpentry shop where Mrs. Andrew Eisenbrandt's house now stands and employed around 25 carpenters.

Dr. John McEwan, veterinarian, had his office in the garage behind his home, now owned by Al Hochberger.

A Mr. Sieling had a tavern where the Elmer Batson family now lives.

Nettles and Rapp had a brewery on the farm now owned by Frank Klotz, later called "The Old Wine Cellar."

Jacob Baumgartner and George Geuther operated a cheese business in the old brick creamery, still standing near the intersection of Route 45 and Hickory Creek.

In addition to these businesses past and present, we are proud to mention that progress is continuing as evidenced by the appearance of many new enterprises during recent years. Some of them are listed below:

Pilgrims' Rest Motel & Service Station
Schilling's Restaurant & Service Station
Knippel's Oasis Drive In
White's Service Station
Tate's Kool Korne
Herbert Folkers, Lawyer
Wagon Wheel Cafe
Milton Subbert Trucking
Baumgartner & Co., Masonry Contractor
Thomas Gunhouse, Veterinarian
Franklin Christiansen, Masonry Contractor
M. J. Buckley, M. D.
B & M Lumber and Supply

Sangmeister Electric Sales
H & O Little General Store
Hedges Clinic
Warning Oil Company
Mrs. LaHue's Beauty Parlor
H. J. Lambrecht, Insurance
Brown & Lambrecht, Excavators
Clarence Waldvogel, Capitol Milk Hauling
Fredin Construction Company
George Waldvogel, Bulk Milk Hauling
Walter Bettenhausen, General Contractor
Robert Schweizer, Accountant
F. A. Eisenbrandt & Sons, Plumbing



Old Wooden Water Tower

Wesley Hollstein, Insurance
K & K Concrete Works
Victor Eisenbrandt, Electrician
Henry G. Breidert, General Contractor
Albert Krusemark, Jr., Lawyer
Moldit, Inc.

Frankfort Village Officials

No record of government or personnel is available from the founding of the village in 1855 to its incorporation in 1879. During this period the village was under township and county jurisdiction. Unfortunately, the early records after incorporation were destroyed by fire in the old village hall about 1910.



Albert Baumgartner, Frankfort's First Milkman

The first Municipal Code on record is dated 1905 and is a revision of the original. It contains many ordinances which seem quite humorous today, especially those concerning animals and gunpowder.

OFFICERS OF THE VILLAGE GOVERNMENT of the

VILLAGE OF FRANKFORT, ILLINOIS — 1905

Max F. Haas.....	President Pro Tem. Board of Trustees
Frank J. Kohlhagen.....	Village Clerk
Charles F. Baumann.....	Village Treasurer
William Knippel.....	Village Marshall
Dr. G. B. Hamlin.....	Health Officer
Vacant	Police Magistrate

MEMBERS OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Henry C. Klepper	William T. Folkers
Otto B. Herschbach	H. August Baumann
August Werner	Vacant

In the next election Joseph Stephen filled the vacancy for Police Magistrate and Fred Klepper for that of Trustee.

Following are the Village Presidents and Clerks as accurately as we are able to list them:

	VILLAGE PRESIDENTS	VILLAGE CLERKS
1905	Max F. Haass (Pro Tem. for President Charles Jurz)	Frank J. Kohlhagen
1906	Dr. G. B. Hamlin (Filled Vacancy)	Ed. J. Feil
1907	Max F. Haass	William T. Folkers
1910	Max F. Haass	Hermann Scheer
1920	Max F. Haass	Charles Peters
1922	Max F. Haass	Walter Pfaff
1927	Christian Fink	Walter Pfaff
1929	George Letts	Walter Pfaff
1931	George Haass	Walter Pfaff
1935	George Sangmeister	Walter Pfaff

The last mentioned are in office at the present time.

The facts listed below are as accurate as available records permit.

POSTMASTERS OF FRANKFORT

L. M. Chayes, Chelsea, 1837 — Matthew Van Horn, Chelsea, 1845 — N. A. Carpenter, Frankfort, 1855 — William B. Cleveland, Frankfort, 1858 — Louis Claus, Frankfort, 1878 — Joseph Claus, Frankfort, 1881 —

H. J. LAMBRECHT

INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE

A Frankfort Businessman
From
1917 - 1955

Telephone 3301



IF IT'S INSURABLE, WE CAN INSURE IT.

◆ ◆ ◆

We Pride Ourselves with Personal Service
and Satisfied Customers

◆ ◆ ◆

Representing

AETNA CASUALTY & SURETY CO.
FIDELITY CASUALTY & SURETY
CONTINENTAL FIRE
ROCHESTER AMERICAN
NATIONAL FIRE

◆ ◆ ◆

I was born in Frankfort and have resided in this village all my life. I am grateful to all the people in this community whom I have been able to serve.



1907

B. A. ZECHLIN

Furniture and Undertaking

We have continued with this Business
and today are operating as

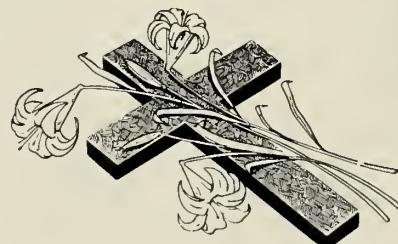
Alfred R. Zechlin

Wood Specialties



Finest of
CUSTOM KITCHEN CABINETS
Designed and Built to Order

Zechlin Funeral Service



Have Been of
Service to the Community
for the Past 48 Years



Baumgartner & Co., Inc.

Contractors and Builders

FRANKFORT, ILLINOIS

TELEPHONE 2491

1914

1955

We started in business under our present name, the officers being the late Mr. Albert Baumgartner, President; Mr. William Baumgartner of Homewood, Illinois, Vice President; and Mr. Walter Baumgartner, Secretary-Treasurer. We operated as masonry and plastering contractors. In 1928, Mr. William Baumgartner moved to Homewood and took over the plastering business, while Albert and Walter Baumgartner kept the masonry line. One of our first homes built by Baumgartner & Co., Inc., was that of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Deist.

Our present organization wishes to congratulate the Village of Frankfort on their Centennial.

Jacob Mueller, Frankfort, 1885 — Howard S. Barker, Frankfort, 1889 — John Kohlhagen, Frankfort, 1893 — John Feil, Frankfort, 1897 — Esther Feil, Frankfort, (Filled out term of father) — Max F. Haass, Frankfort, 1901 — Robert E. Stephen, Frankfort, 1914 (Present resident) — Amelia K. Fink, Frankfort, 1934 (Present resident) — Leroy J. Mager, Frankfort, 1954 (Present resident).

Up to now Frankfort has not grown as rapidly as most of her neighboring villages, mainly because it is not on a vital line of transportation. Perhaps at times some of her progressive citizens have bemoaned this fact and wished circumstances could be changed. However, in recent years, we believe that most of us have changed our thinking in this matter. We have now become suburban without the hustle of local trains, since good highways make the Chicago Loop just 60 minutes away. The small town atmosphere still prevails and we are happy to keep it that way. Many of our residents commute to the city each day and are glad to return each evening to the clean and quiet life of our community. At present we are located in the center of excellent shopping facilities easily reached.

New people who move into our village usually do so with the intention of staying indefinitely since ours is not the transient type of community. Because of this our new homes and other buildings are of high quality, attractive, and have ample room. The fact that our taxes are reasonable has encouraged many new residents. Our churches offer the best in religious training and worship. Our grade school is continually expanding to provide adequate facilities for the better education of our youth and to maintain its high rating. Our



Frankfort Baseball Team—1912

new community high school is recognized as one of the finest in the country.

Although Frankfort is small in population we have many organizations functioning actively, which make it possible for everyone to offer service to fellowmen in some way. Because of these groups new people find it easy to become acquainted and are made to feel a part of the community more readily.

At present our main interest and effort is being concentrated on our new park development, which is rapidly proving to be very essential in good and complete community living. The profit from this Centennial celebration is all being designated for this most worthwhile project. The youth of a few generations ago struggled to provide recreation for themselves. We are trying

to aid the young people of today and those of the future in this effort.

A good example of this type of recreation is that of our ball teams.

In this brief history of our village and its people it has been possible to recount only the highlights and items of most general interest to all. However, I am confident that the main events of the past century have been portrayed very completely, since research in the form of stories and pictures was conducted by many of our citizens. A word of appreciation is due the five Frankfort students from Lincoln-Way Community High School, who have written term papers on the histories of some of our organizations and businesses, portions of which were used in this history. They are Ralph Eisenbrandt, Albert H. Carter, Diane Hochberger, Carole Peterson, and Janice Johnson. We are indebted to Alan Hedges for his splendid design of the front cover of this program. I want to thank the many people who have helped in compiling the material for this program, the numerous organizations, and especially Ada Lambrecht, Viola Lankenau, Erma Hedges, Frances Breidert, and



Early Scene of Kansas Street



Little League Team—1955

CLASS OF SERVICE
This is a fast message
unless its deferred character is indicated by the
proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM 108

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LT = International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

..SA303 RA410

R WA662 GOVT NL PD CGN=THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC 14
: BURTON H BREIDERT, HISTORICAL PROGRAM CHAIRMAN=
FRANKFORT CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION FRANKFORT ILL:
TO THE CITIZENS OF FRANKFORT I SEND MY CONGRATULATIONS
ON ITS ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY. I HOPE YOUR
CELEBRATION WILL BE AN ENJOYUBLE ONE, AND THAT IT WILL
STIMULATE THOSE WHO LIVE IN FRANKFORT TO WORK TOGETHER
FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THEIR TOWN IN THE COMING YEARS:
DWIGHT D EISENHOWER

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SPRINGFIELD

WILLIAM G. STRATTON
GOVERNOR

July 21, 1955

To the Citizens of Frankfort, Illinois:

As Governor of Illinois, I am happy to extend
congratulations on the occasion of your Centennial
celebration.

I regret that it will be impossible for me to
participate in the centennial activities and personally
greet those attending the ceremonies.

You have every reason to be proud of your village
history and American heritage. The growth and progress of
villages in Illinois such as Frankfort during the past
century have contributed much to the continual advancement
and expansion of our great mid-western State and it is a
pleasure as well as a privilege to express best wishes to
you on behalf of the people of Illinois in recognition of
your one hundredth anniversary.

Sincerely yours,

William G. Stratton
Governor

WGS:JP

Frankfort Centennial Celebration

Schedule of Events

Wednesday, August 10

9:00-12:30 P.M. Centennial Queen's Ball (announcement of the Queen and her Court of Honor)—Dancing to the music of Henri Buttell.

Thursday, August 11 "Ladies' Day"

2:00-4:00 P.M. Ladies' Centennial Tea and Fashion Show, School Gym—Frankfort Historical Window Displays.

7:00 P.M. Opening of Carnival at School Grounds.

Final Judging of Centennial Belles—School Grounds.

8:15 P.M. Centennial Queen's Coronation—Pageant Field. Crowned by Sen. Lottie Holman O'Neil.

8:30 P.M. First Performance of the Historical Pageant "Frankfort Through the Years"—Pageant Field.

Friday, August 12 "Pioneer and Homecoming Day"

7:00 P.M. Pioneer and Homecoming Recognition Ceremony—School Grounds.

8:00 P.M. Final Judging of the Brothers of the Brush—Pageant Field.

8:30 P.M. Second Performance of "Frankfort Through the Years."

Saturday, August 13 "Neighbors' Day"

2:00 P.M. Children's Centennial Parade.

3:00 P.M. Children's Matinee at Carnival.

Mayor's Milking Contest—School Grounds.

7:00 P.M. Speaker, Senator Everett Dirksen—School Grounds.

8:30 P.M. Third Performance of "Frankfort Through the Years."

Sunday, August 14 Centennial Religious Dedication Day

10:30 A.M. Centennial Union Service—Frankfort Grade School Gym. Centennial Choir.

1:30 P.M. Grand Centennial and Historical Parade.

8:00 P.M. Fourth Performance of "Frankfort Through the Years."

Contestants in the Frankfort Queen's Contest

Emogene Anderson

Pat Heisner

Mary Mark

Betty Lou Breymeyer

Diane Hochberger

Viola Mueller

Janet Folkers

Evonne Hossbach

Inez Reiter

Arlene Gudgeon

Janice Johnson

Wilma Schuld

Mary Ann Heisner

Carol Larson

Irene Wischover

"FRANKFORT THROUGH THE YEARS"

A JOHN B. ROGERS PRODUCTION

Written and Directed by Phillip R. Frable

Greetings to you as we present the thrilling story of the founding, growth, and development of Frankfort.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

PROLOGUE

A brilliant scene in which the centennial queen, "Miss Frankfort," welcomes the audience to the enactment to follow. Down the avenue of flags comes Her Majesty as "Miss Columbia," the personified "States," "The Nation Queens" and the other patriotic ensembles pay homage to our Queen.

EPISODE I: THE FRANKFORT STORY

An epic of a tidal wave of freedom-loving men and women sweeping on to a new world rich with natural resources beyond the dreams of the ages.

EPISODE II: THE RED MAN IN THE LAND UNKNOWN

The first well known inhabitants of the plains of Illinois were the Indian tribes known as the Pianke-shaws, the Weas, the Miamis, and the great tribe of the Illini. The knowledge of these people is vague in the extreme, but the fact of their existence and their occupation of this country is beyond question.

EPISODE III: THE FIRST SETTLER

In 1828 William Rice came to our vicinity. Although he did not remain long, he was so impressed by the advantages of the region, that he returned in 1831, to establish a home. He felt that here was what he wanted, here he would set up a family altar of which future generations would be proud.

EPISODE IV: NEW PEOPLE IN A NEW LAND

Over the old "Sauk Trail" they came, lured by the promise of the region they came to establish and to tame the vast wilderness. Families and possessions were loaded into covered wagons and the search for a home beyond the frontier was on.

EPISODE V: REMEMBER THE SABBATH

When the pioneers came to this land, they brought with them, not only their belief in democracy and freedom of opportunity, but they came with the priceless belief in God and the freedom of worship.

EPISODE VI: JUST ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

EPISODE VII: READIN', 'RITIN', AND 'RITHMETIC

Many of the early settlers of Frankfort were people of limited education but the education for their children was never neglected even from the earliest time.

EPISODE VIII: THE COMING OF THE RAILROAD

In the year 1855 the railroad came to Frankfort bringing new growth; it opened new markets and

the "Iron Horse" stamped its deep and lasting trail across the land.

EPISODE IX: A VOLUME IN BLACK

As the year 1860 approached, the Frankfort area was flourishing with farms, schools and enterprising citizens. God's grace seemed to be shed on the area. Soon our nation became a divided house. The peace and serenity that once was ours, was gone. . . . The boys of this area joined the Blue.

EPISODE X: BAUMANN'S TAVERN

It was in the year 1866 that the Baumann tavern, which has become a land mark in our village, was built. Many of our older residents can recall happy hours spent in the ballroom that occupied the entire upper floor of the establishment.

EPISODE XI: BIKES, BUSTLES, AND MUSTACHES

We take you to the park in the afternoon, circa 1900, to a picnic with the belles and beaux of the period. . . . It was "twenty-three Skidoo," if you want the slang by-word in these nostalgic days of the high bike, leg-o-mutton sleeves, horseless carriages and the surreys with the fringe on top. . . . But let's listen to the man as he introduces the "CAN CAN" dancers.

EPISODE XII: THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM IN THE WORLD

The year is now 1917 and America is going to war. Frankfort watched her volunteers enlist. We honor our fighting "doughboys," marines and sailors who participated in this first global conflict and remember those in particular who did not return.

EPISODE XIII: THE ROARING TWENTIES

We pause briefly to re-live the days when father wore the "plus fours" and "knickers" on the miniature golf course, while mother in the cloche hat and short, beaded gown, joined the other flappers in mastering the intricacies of "THE CHARLES-TON" . . .

EPISODE XIV: THE SIEGE OF DEMOCRACY

We pay a heartfelt tribute to our heroes in North Africa, Italy, Anzio, the Battle of the Bulge, on Guam, the South Pacific outposts, and Mount Surabachi.

FINALE: THE GREAT WHEEL OF PROGRESS

Before you, a great wheel of progress is taking form, with Frankfort as its hub, with each spoke carved from one of her past achievements. We see Frankfort serving the nations of the world. The young manhood and womanhood of our community, proudly carrying the torch of youth into the future.

"FRANKFORT THROUGH THE YEARS"

CAST

NARRATORS:

Donald Freeh

Clark Bennett, Jr.

Marcella Morrison

Ruth Wilson

STATES TO COLUMBIA—June Samuel, Myrtle Klier, Sharon Landau, Judy Mulligan, Nancy Heisner, Janice Reimers, Willa Schroeder, Shirley Sievert, Esme Bell.

TRUMPETEERS—Juanita Hansen, Leanne Schroeder, Jeanette Deist, Gail Hobson, Kathleen Geuther, Nancy Smith.

SAILORETTES—Vivienne Eisenbrandt, Elaine Mager, Sandra Harwood, Lorna Miller, Diane Schoen, Karen Geuther, Lita Englebrecht, Marilyn Miller, Leona Guzik, Mary Grotewold, Eileen Smith.

BOYS—Roy Bobzin, Dale Schoen, Charles Scudella, John Harwood, Thomas Breymeyer, Allen Seemann.

GIRLS—Rita Schinkowski, Norma Smith, Barbara Seemann, Norma Haakinson, Sheri Nieland, Marilyn Deist, Kristal Nieland.

OLD TIMER—Joseph Scott.

INDIAN CHIEF—Herbert Folkers, Jr.

SQUAWS—Lucile Hansen, Phyllis Harnack, Florence Ball, Euleda O'Mara, Marietta Christiansen, Frances Schroeder, Shirley Sievert, Tamarlee Trump.

INDIAN PRINCESS—Joan Hansen.

INDIAN BRAVES—David Zechlin, Ralph Eisenbrandt, Fred Weichselberger, Jr., Charles Mark, Jr., LeVerne Mark, Edward Zitter, Charles Miller.

LaSALLE AND SOLDIER—Donald Schroeder, Glenn Nissen.

FATHER LOUIS HENNEPIN—Glenn Schroeder.

INDIAN BOYS—Gerald Mark, James Larson, Gary Moss, Warren Klier.

INDIAN GIRLS—Milda Schroeder, Peggy Nissen, Marilyn Klier, Jo Van Rheedens, Kay Van Rheedens.

PIONEER MEN—Howard Osmus, Con. Wieringa, Louis Ebert, Dick Kortanek, George Tate, Merle Otto, William Batson, Glenn Ferrell.

PIONEER WOMEN—Virginia Osmus, Ethel Wieringa, Norma Ferrell, Lois Ebert, Ruth Kortanek, Betty Tate, Geraldine Otto, Lucille Batson.

PREACHER—James H. Bell.

PIONEER BOYS—Gary Ebert, Larry Batson, Roger Otto, Donald Ferrell.

PIONEER GIRLS—Sandra Wieringa, Patricia Wieringa, Helen Ann Ebert, Sherri Ferrell.

OLD FASHIONED MEN—Wayne DePorto, Clarence Heisner, Ralph Nieland, Eddie Belz, Carl Marienfeld, Orville Schinkowski, Kenneth Heusing, John Anderson.

OLD FASHIONED WOMEN—Henrietta DePorto, Louise Heisner, June Nieland, Evelyn Belz, Pauline Marienfeld, Gladys Schinkowski, Myrtle Heusing, Cora Anderson.

CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS—Arlan Schram, Alan Schram, Duane Warming, Randall Smith, Terry Schroeder, Leland Harwood, Robert Breidert, Ralph Eisenbrandt, Alan Fink, David Zechlin.

WIDOW BROWN—Mable Fink.

CIVIL WAR OFFICER—Delbert Seemann.

SCHOOL BOYS—Terry Logan, William Morrison, Kenneth Marienfeld, Dennis Marienfeld, Richard Osmus, Kim Osmus, Richard Mark, Gary Anderson, Keith Schram, Robert Kortanek.

SCHOOL GIRLS—Sandra Logan, Mary Ann Otto, Martha Otto, Judith Larson, Pamela Petnuch, Constance Morrison, Dianne Moss, Lynn Hansen.

SCHOOL TEACHER—Eris Rudman.

BATHING BEAUTIES—Marie Mager, Lola Schroeder, Vernette Breider, Lois Hossbach, Pearl Cheney, Margaret Zitter.

BALL PLAYERS—Elwood Zitter, Kenneth Zitter, Harold Ebert.

LIFE GUARDS—William Breider, Kenneth Waldvogel.

LADY IN RED—Mrs. Harold Ebert.

MINNIE AND ELMER—Elmer and Viola Batson.

MAYOR—Clark Bennett, Sr.

GAY NINETIES COP—Charles Zitter.

SUFFRAGETTES—Doris Sangmeister, Vicki Lambrecht, Marie Johnson, Helen Landau.

PRESBYTERIAN PICNIC—Fay Harwood, Christina Bennett, Jack Zitter, Nancy Lambrecht, Thomas Lambrecht, Albert Hauser, Sandra Grey.

MISS PRIM AND PROPER—Mary Ellen Kohlhagen.

BRIDE AND GROOM—Robert and Doris Trump.

MEDICINE BARKER—Lynn Kohlhagen.

BICYCLE COUPLE—Janet Folkers, Wilber Hossbach.

CAN-CAN GIRLS—Gail Carter, Carole Baker, Ann Edstrom, Donna Brouillette, Magie Hermanek.

CHARLESTON DANCERS—Judith Hansen, Patricia Bradley, Rudolph Guzik, Arthur Mark, Jr.

CENTENNIAL CHORUS

ARTHUR T. LAMBRECHT, Conductor

LILLIAN COLLINS, Organist

SOPRANOS

Kay Anderson	Irene Scheer
Mary Pearson	Ellen Mark
Viola Lankenau	Janet Bauch
Dorothy Woodman	Janet Folkers
Maria Dawson	Willa Schroeder
Frances Breider	Donna Miller
Bernice Schroeder	Joyce Schweizer
Charlotte Folkers	Judy Hansen
Marion Haakinson	Patricia Bradley
Dorothy Mark	Patricia Heisner
Bernice Voss	

ALTOS

Mary Lou Dyke	Elsa Bizer
Lola Schroeder	Eva Jean Lorenzen
Leilia Folkers	Virginia Kruse
Helen Landau	Bernice Voss
Charlene Folkers	Barbara Scheer
Buelah Kohlhagen	Yvonne Piepenbrink
Bertha Klepper	Karen Piepenbrink
Berenice Krusemark	Joan Hansen
Ada Lambrecht	Vivienne Eisenbrandt
Virginia Osmus	Lulu Breider

TENORS

Fred Heisner	Leroy Hansen
Lewis Ebert	Burton Breider
Robert Hohenstein	Rev. Ben Day
Roger Hedges	Calvert Heath, Jr.
Carl Johnson	Dr. C. W. Otto

BASSES

George Sangmeister, Jr.	Vernon Hansen
Al Hochberger	Frank Folkers
Alan Hedges	William Wilson
Herbert Folkers	Rev. Erich Bizer
John Dawson	Dr. Merle Otto
Herbert Lambrecht	



TATE'S KOOL KORNER

Routes 30 and 45

SUNDAES • MALTS • BANANA SPLITS • SHAKES
COLD DRINKS • FLOATS • CONES
SODAS • FREEZES

Stop for a Kool Refresher

Congratulations to Frankfort
on its
100th Anniversary

The Standard Oil Company, a youngster of sixty-six years, congratulates the city of Frankfort on its 100th anniversary.

As Frankfort has progressed the Standard Oil Company has kept pace.

Today, we serve this area with modern equipment, fine quality products and dependable delivery.

YOU EXPECT MORE FROM STANDARD
AND YOU GET IT!



STANDARD OIL COMPANY
HAROLD CLARKE, Agent
Mokena 4421



PILGRIMS REST

Standard Service

AND

Motel

♦ ♦ ♦

NOW OPERATED BY TED AND WAYNE MASSEY

"Where Quality and Service Meet"

♦ ♦ ♦

Corner Route 45 and Route 30

24 HOUR SERVICE DAILY

Mrs. Edith Heusner, who have done the most in research and effort.

And so, I hope that as you have turned through these pages reminiscent of local history during the past 100 years, it has recreated happy memories of events and people for many of you. Also, I trust that it has made you proud of the heritage of good, solid, Ameri-

can stock from which we are descended. May the excellent example that our fore-fathers left us in courage, ambition, and love of industry spur us on toward the accomplishment of ever better living for all.

BURTON BREIDERT,

Program Chairman.

Names of Those Who Have Helped to Finance This Program

Families

Elmer Batson Family
Leo Hackinson Family
Herman Reimers Family
William Breidert Family
Walter Zollner Family
Ralph Nieland Family
Merle Otto Family
Earl Moss Family
Joseph Petnuch Family
Herbert Minger Family
Lynn Kohlhagen Family
Wendell Morrison Family
Tony Baker Family
Harold Smith Family
Orval Schroeder Family
Ted Massey Family

Franklin Christiansen Family
Emanuel Engelmann Family
Orville Schinkowski Family
Thomas Gunhouse Family
Clarence Waldvogel Family
Stanley Johnson Family
Paul Lambrecht Family
Robert Simpson Family
Ralph Dralle Family
Otto Novota Family
Burlyn Eisenbrandt Family
Stanley Warning Family
Burton Breidert Family
Charles Lewin Family
Howard Osmus Family
Glen Ferrell Family

Richard Kortanek Family
Al Hochberger Family
Leroy Hansen Family
Jack Ewing Family
Oran Deist Family
Wilbur Emperor Family
Robert Burns Family
Burnett Schram Family
Fred Piepenbrink Family
Marcel Halik Family
Elmer Sievert Family
Joe Lackner Family
Walter Marti Family
Richard Lambrecht Family
Ida Harmening Family
Fred Weichselberger Family

Glenn Schroeder Family
Arthur Eisenbrandt Family
Alfred Zechlin Family
Leroy Wright Family
William Batson Family
Robert Van Rheeden Family
Leroy Mager Family
Blanche Mitchell Family
Lewis Ebert Family
John Topp Family
Clyde Reils Family
Arthur Melcher Family
Roy Stellwagen Family
Walter Jacobs Family
Walter Harnack Family
Harold Heisner Family

John Anderson Family
Donald Carroll Family
Lester Gay Family
Augusta Wischover Family
Walter Schoen Family
Emil Lenhardt Family
Kenneth Oetter Family
Donald Melcher Family
Albert Krusemark, Jr., Family
Wm. C. Bettenhausen Family
Edmund Ebert Family
John Weitendorf Family
Henry Ruhbeck Family
Carl Marienfeld Family
Ralph Thoresen Family
Ray Hiroshige Family

Couples

The Lloyd Luhrings
The Donald Freehs
The George Heisners
The Arthur Lambrechts
The Alvin Harnacks
The Harold Eberts
The Albert Borms'
The Fred Heusners
The Christian Finks
The Harry Martis

The Irving Rudmans
The Calvert Heaths, Sr.
The Frank Novaks
The Erich Bizers
The Herbert Lambrechts
The Ervin Schellhases
The Henry J. Heusners
The William G. Wilsons
The Herman Stelters
The Fred Kohlhagens

The Dale Warnings
The Emil Deists
The William Hansens
The Edwin Dralles
The Conrad Oetters
The Calvert Heaths, Jr.
The Adam J. Heusners
The Larry Harris'
The Wilbur Meyers'
The Charles Bells

The Glenn Folkers'
The Henry Breiderts
The John Knights
The Jacob Hosterts
The Otto Cohrs
The Homer Smiths
The William Seemanns
The Elmer Linds
The Arthur Subberts
The Kenneth Heusings

The George Kochels
The Frank Heisners
The Arthur Martis
The Leonard Pearsons
The Elmer Grendheims
The Robert Stephens
The Herman Barleworts
The Walter Bettenhausens
The Edward Warnings
The Carl Johnsons

Individuals

Christina Eichenberg
Bertha Nieland
William Kampe
Fred Dalaker
Alan Hedges
Roger Hedges
Bertha Klepper
Lola Harnack
Charlene Folkers
Anna Scheer
Adella Lorenzen
Katherine Heisner

Garland Knippel
Alvin Gullickson
Florence Hollstein
Henry Harnack
May Scheer
Viola Lankenau
Margaret Koerner
Bertha LaHue
Elizabeth Wischover
Alvina Minger
Euleda O'Mara
Mathilda Harnack



Alan Hedges, Designer of Cover



Historical Program Committee at Work: (Left to right) Frances Breidert, Burton Breidert, Chairman, Ada Lambrecht and Viola Lankenau



1922

1955

A. C. BAUCH

Ford and Allis Chalmers Dealer

We are proud to have been a part of the Frankfort Business Community for the past 33 years.

Our organization has grown from a small one car garage to our present building.

We have constantly strived to give the people of our area the best service and hope that we may still serve you until the next Centennial.



BROWN & LAMBRECHT

EARTH MOVERS

Joliet, Illinois



ROAD BUILDING AND SITE DEVELOPMENT



NATIONAL STONE COMPANY

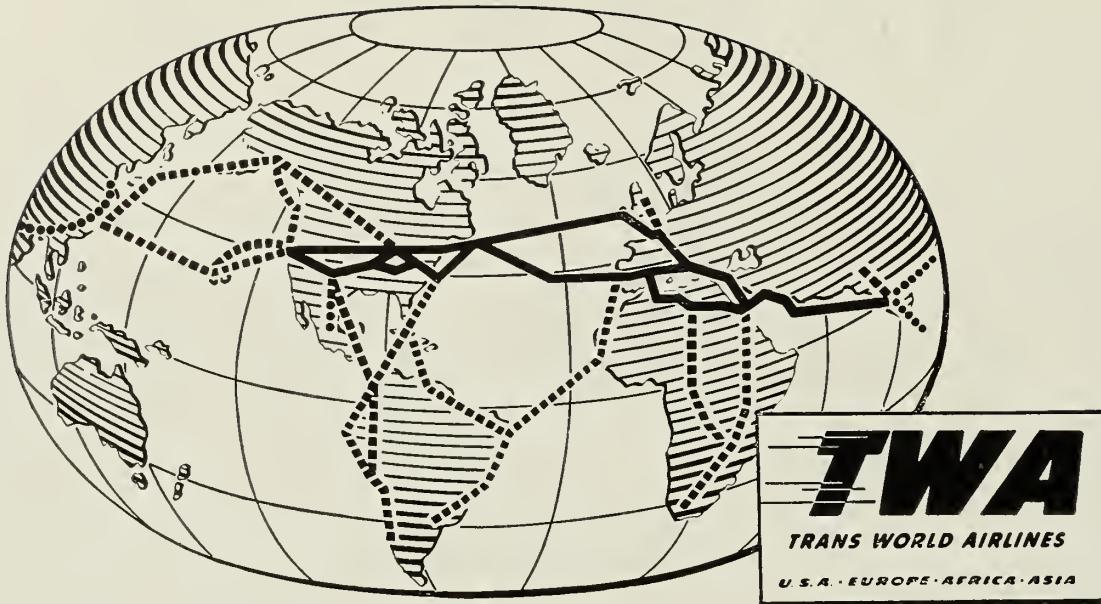
JOLIET, ILLINOIS

PHONE JOLIET 5-285



AGRICULTURAL LIMESTONE

**CRUSHED STONE FOR ROADS, CONCRETE,
BLACKTOP, SEPTIC SYSTEMS
RAILROAD BALLAST**



ACROSS THE U.S. AND OVERSEAS . . .

TWA
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CONGRATULATES FRANKFORT ON ITS CENTENNIAL

AND ARE PROUD TO HAVE BEEN CHOSEN
TO TRANSPORT THEIR QUEEN
ON A ROUND TRIP TO
NEW YORK

TWA TWA

Where
in the world
do you
want to go?



Across the U.S. and overseas...
you can depend on

TWA

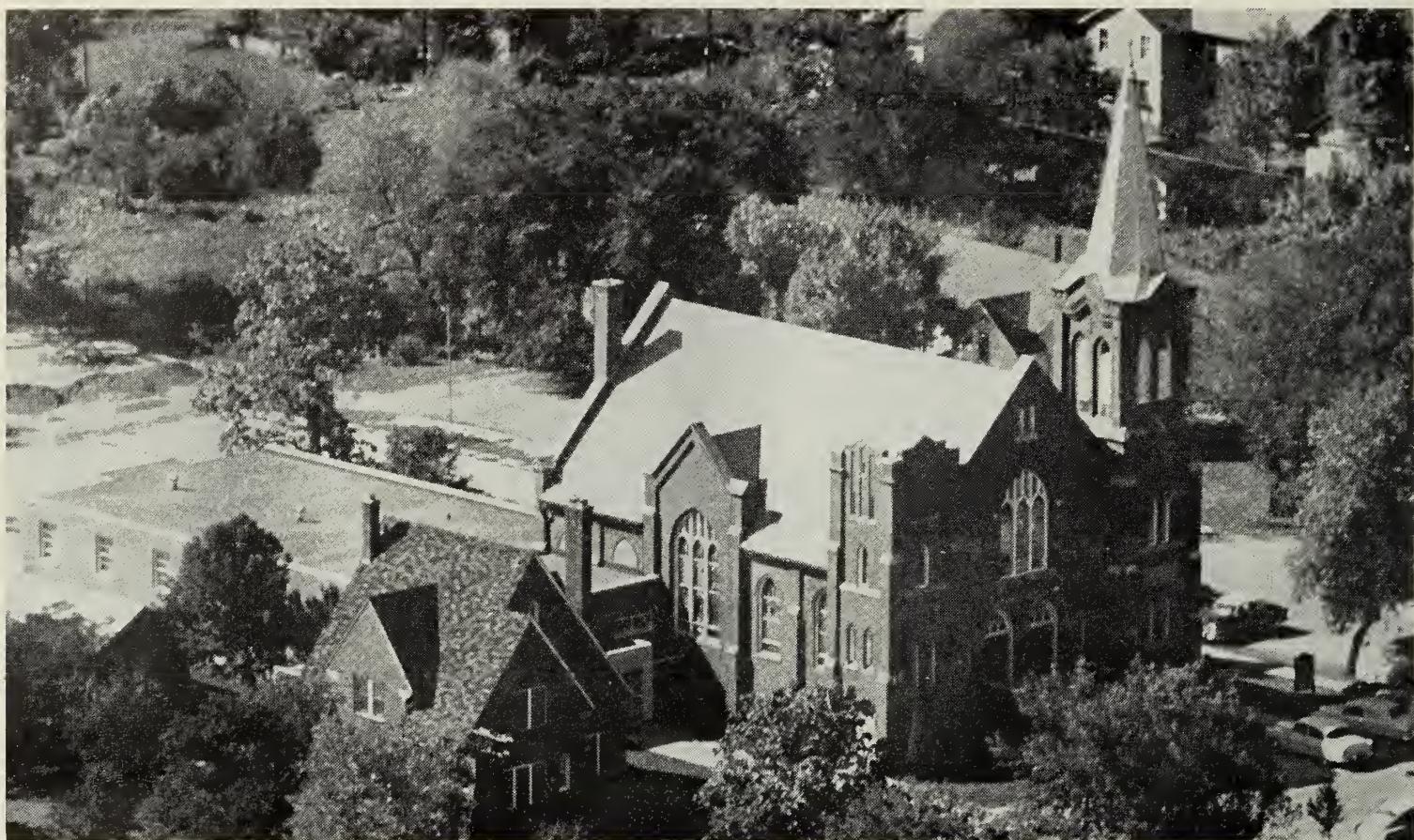
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TWA TWA

St. Peter's Evangelical and Reformed Church

Frankfort, Illinois



(This picture by courtesy of The Loree Co., Chicago)

SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY

9:30 A.M. the Sunday School
10:30 A.M. the Divine Service

On October 28, 1867, a group of families met and organized this congregation. In the following year they erected the first church building which served the congregation until 1916. The present church was then built at a cost of \$30,000. The parsonage was built in 1926, and is modern in every respect. Various remodeling jobs were completed throughout the years. In 1954 an educational annex was added to the church to care for the expanded program of the church. This included a modern kitchen, office, lounge, choir room, and 16 classrooms. The church has a beautiful interior.

The growth of the congregation was gradual, beginning with 15 charter families. Today the congregation numbers 335 families. There are the various or-

ganizations. The Sunday School is graded and departmentalized. The Women's Guild is very active and the Brotherhood and two Youth Fellowships have been adding their bit of activity. Two choirs have been taking part in the services regularly. A church board of 12 members aid the pastor in looking after the welfare of the church.

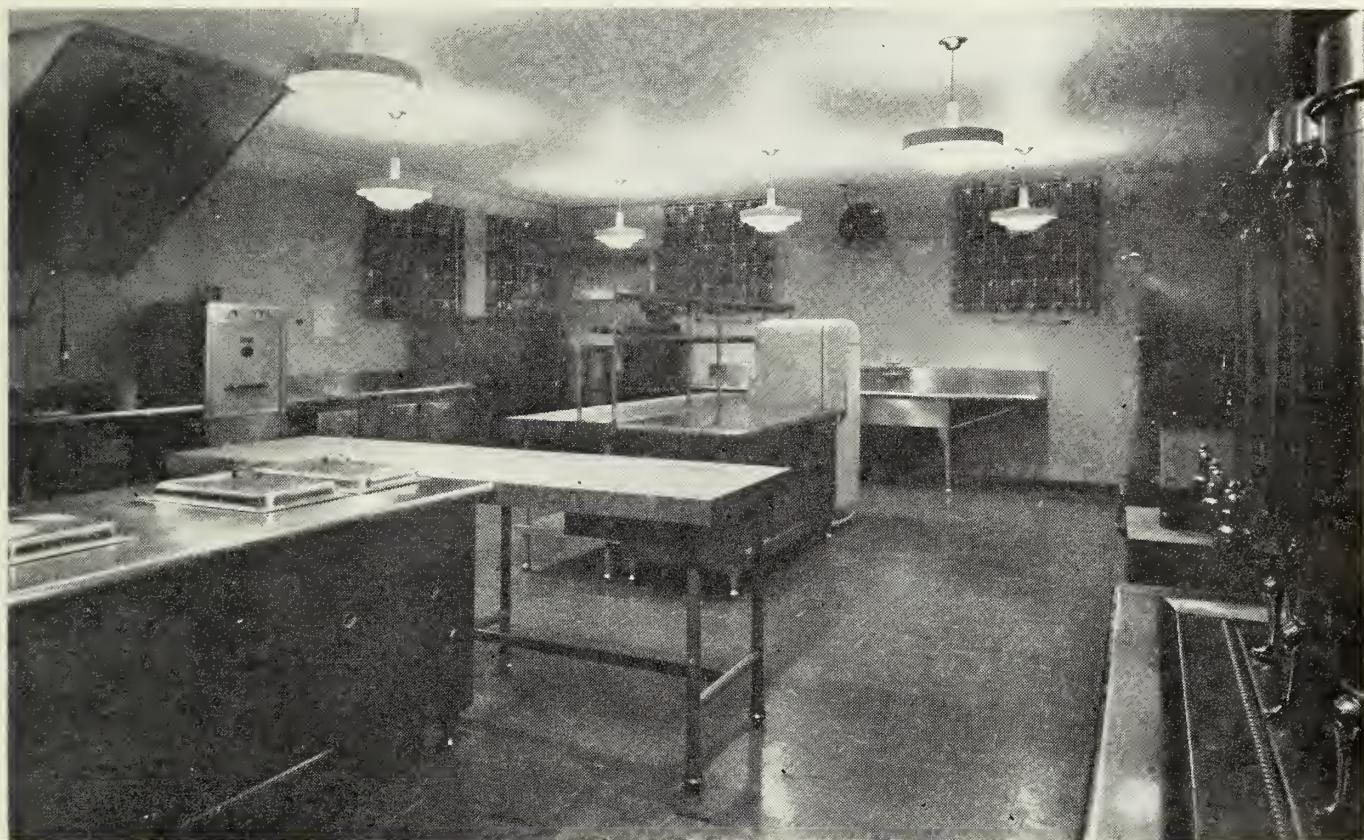
In the early years the pastorates were brief. In the year 1889 the Rev. Gustave Lambrecht came and remained for 37 years. The Rev. George Gerhold followed in 1926 and served for 16 years. The present pastor, the Rev. Erich G. Bizer has been here the past twelve and one-half years.

St. Peter's Brotherhood

The first Brotherhood of St. Peter's Evangelical and Reformed Church at Frankfort was organized during the pastorate of the Rev. G. Lambrecht and was a large and active organization in the early years.

It was reorganized and received the denominational charter in the year 1947. Interesting discussions are a part of the program as well as movies occasionally, followed by a lunch. The Brotherhood has spon-

sored dart ball teams — placed church signs along the highways — cares for the tennis court on the church ground as well as supporting the annual denominational Brotherhood Projects. Men's night is every first Tuesday of the month. The present officers are: Mr. Wesley Hollstein, President; Mr. Elmer Harnack, Vice President; Mr. Harold Scheer, Secretary, and Mr. Emil Lenhardt, Treasurer.



St. Peter's Women's Guild

In 1875 a Ladies Aid Society was organized in St. Peter's Evangelical and Reformed Church by the Rev. F. Walter. They met in the homes for study and sewing and lunch. After the new church was completed in 1916, they met in the basement. The monthly suppers began in 1923 and in 1927 evening programs were added for family nights.

Later on the name was changed to St. Peter's Women's Guild. Now three fall and three winter suppers are served to the public and also various banquets for

different community organizations. The Guild has sponsored many improvements to the church property and just lately equipped a modern kitchen with dishwasher, coffee maker, stoves, food warmer, tables, cabinets, all in stainless steel.

Much educational work is done. They sponsor Old Clothing Drives, Sewing for Institutions, making of Cancer Dressings, supporting the Red Cross, Community Chest, etc. A varied, interesting and helpful program is maintained.

MRS. ALVIN HARNACK President
MRS. GILBERT VOSS Vice President

MRS. WILLIAM WISCHOVER Secretary
MRS. CLARK BENNETT Treasurer

Success and Congratulations

on your

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

From Your Elected

COUNTY OFFICIALS

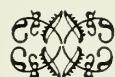
of Will County



JOSEPH H. HARTLEY County Clerk
ELLSWORTH B. WORKMAN . Probate Clerk
PAUL V. WUNDER, JR. . . . Circuit Clerk
ROBERT L. SPREITZER Recorder
FLOYD H. KRAPF County Treasurer.
MARTIN LUNDQUIST County Auditor
ROY C. DOERFLER Sheriff
FRANK H. MASTERS, JR. . . . State's Attorney
JOHN C. COWING County Judge
STEWART C. HUTCHISON . Probate Judge
JAMES V. BARTLEY Circuit Judge
VERNE E. CRACKEL Supt. of Schools
WILLARD G. BLOOD Coroner



We, the elected officers of the township of Frankfort, wish to extend our heartiest congratulations to the citizens of Frankfort on their Centennial.



WILLIAM KAMPE	Supervisor
HENRY YUNKER	Road Committee
HAROLD COOPER	Town Clerk
PAUL LEMKE	Assessor
BURNETT SCHRAM	Town Collector
WESLEY HOLLSTEIN	Justice of the Peace
AUGUST WERNER	Justice of the Peace
WILLIAM KNIPPEL	Constable
GEORGE BENNETT	Constable

Frankfort Methodist Church

The Methodist congregation erected the first church building in the village of Frankfort in 1856.

The pastor was the Rev. S. R. Beggs, who was what was known in those days as a circuit rider, preaching in various other localities.

The building was dedicated in 1857 by the Rev. Samuel Hewes, a grandfather of Attorney Charles Blim of Joliet.

With the growth of the village, the congregation saw the need of a new building, so in 1908, the present edifice was built and dedicated in February, 1909. At that time the parsonage stood where what is now Mrs. Bertha LaHue's home. It was sold and a new

one built in 1925 by the church and dedicated in 1926.

The 75th anniversary of the church was observed in July, 1932, and was quite an event. A Hammond electric organ was installed in 1946.

The First Methodist church at Green Garden joined with the Frankfort church in 1933, and in 1937 an extensive remodeling program was carried through. At present, plans are in the making to build a new edifice, in the near future. The pastor is Rev. Benjamin F. Day, and the membership is about 200. A Sunday School, Youth Fellowships (Senior and Junior), and our Women's Society of Christian Service are other organizations of the congregation.



WOMEN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE *of the* FRANKFORT METHODIST CHURCH

For over 50 years there has been a Woman's organization in this church, formerly known as the Ladies Aid. About 15 years ago the Ladies Aid and Missionary Societies of the Methodist Church were united into one under the name of Women's Society of Christian Service.

The purpose of this Society is to unite all the women of the church in Christian living and service;

to help and support the Missionary work among women and children around the world. To this end this congregation shall seek to enlist women, young people and children in this Christian fellowship. Also, to take part and help secure funds for the activities in the local church. One of its special projects has been the upkeep of the inside of the parsonage and many of the improvements are due to the effort of its members. Its aim and goal is to continue in "Christian Service."

Compliments of

**PARK FOREST
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To Make the Best Better

4-H CLUB PLEDGE

I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health to better living, for my club, my community, and my country.

The first Will County girls 4-H club was organized in 1925. The Frankfort 4-H Club began in 1926 with Mrs. George Andrews as leader.

YVONNE PIEPENBRINK, President
WILLA SCHROEDER, Vice President
JO ANN HANSEN, Secretary-Treasurer
VIVIENNE EISENBRANDT, Program Chairman

Ann Cummings
Connie Cummings
Karen Geuther
Kathy Geuther
Janice Reimers
June Samuel

Diane Schoen
Leanne Schroeder
Norma Jean Smith
Leona Guzik
Juanita Hansen
Lynn Hansen

The present club, THE FRANKFORT HONEY BEES, has an enrollment of the following girls:

JUDY HANSEN, Reporter
ELAINE MAGER, Assistant Reporter
APRIL SCHWEIZER, Recreation Chairman
VIVIENNE EISENBRANDT, Program Chairman

Gail Hobson	Ruth Ellen Nice
Rosemary Lane	Mary Ann Otto
Judy Larson	Marcia Schweizer
Sandy Logan	Anne Margaret Joyce
Lorna Miller	Betty Gail Mitchell
Marilyn Miller	Patricia Breymeyer

The 1955 leaders are Mrs. Irving Rudman, Mrs. Robert Schweizer, Mrs. Fred Piepenbrink, and Mrs. James Logan.

Projects enrolled in are: You Learn to Sew, You Make Your Own Clothes, You Learn to Bake, ABC of Cookery, Plan and Prepare Meals - Pastry, Plan and

Prepare Meals - Meats, Table Coverings, Food Preservation, Flower Arrangement, and Yeast Breads.

Activities include health, demonstrations, recreation, camping, safety, electric activities and the Pageant of Progress.

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This company was organized for business in 1867, incorporated by the State of Illinois in 1869, and has been growing steadily to the present time.

Henry R. Stassen, Jr., the originator of the organization, came to this country with his parents from Germany and settled in Monee Township, Will County, Illinois. He and Henry Stassen, Sr., the former president, immediately applied themselves to the plan of insurance and organized the company with eight other farmers from the Green Garden area.

They began business the year of 1869, and named the corporation "Green Garden Farmers' Fire Insur-

ance Company." Without any cash reserve on hand, officers had to advance the money until such time as money came in from agents. The report of the first year of business in 1869 showed cash on hand of \$25.29. Total assets of December 31, 1954, were \$313,146.69.

Business was conducted in the German language until 1917 when the English language replaced it.

In 1949, the charter was amended to include extended coverage, excluding wind. Insurance is taken on city property as well as farms.

congratulations!
as a
youngster of
twenty-five
we salute you,
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and wish you
another
hundred years
of fine living



fashions
for men
and boys



The Frankfort Volunteer Fire Department

A century ago village fires were fought by bucket brigades, using water which had been stored in barrels. As the population increased this method was abolished. A wooden water tower was built, water mains were laid, and hose carried on a man-drawn cart were purchased. In later years a new steel tower was built.

In 1923 a Model T Chemical Truck was bought and in 1938 a 500 gallon La France

Truck was added. As larger and more modern equipment became necessary a tank truck with a 500 gallon pump was purchased in 1945. Last year an emergency panel truck with lighting and other new equipment was added to the fire-fighting force.

The volunteer membership at the present time consists of 38 members, and Fred Kohlhagen is Fire Chief.

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ON THEIR CENTENNIAL**

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The Frankfort Lions Club was chartered February 25, 1941, with nineteen members. Of that membership, three have passed away. Eight of the chartered members are still active. During the past fourteen years the membership has grown; the membership today is fifty-two members.

Their activities and projects have been improvements for the community. Among these projects were installing gas in the Frankfort Public School. They moved the playground equipment to its present location. They were responsible for the much needed street signs in Frankfort. They leased Michigan Central Railroad grounds and have been working on the ice skating pond. They also sponsored the moving pictures for several years in cooperation with the business men. The park has been a very great interest of theirs. They have donated many things and prepared the grounds on Saturday afternoons and Sundays for the baseball games. The Lions are sponsors of the Little League and in conjunction with the Frankfort Fire Department helped to complete the lights at the park. The club is a part of the largest Service Club in the world and they have done their part in promoting good will in all countries.

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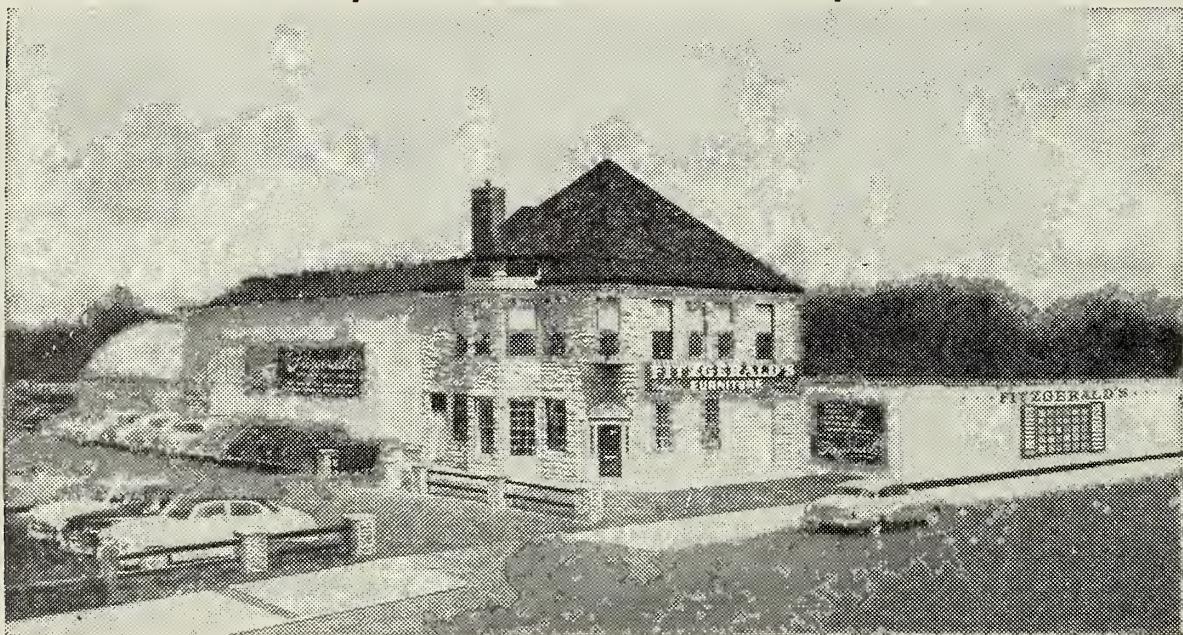
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Phone 2751

Do you remember when:

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THE FRANKFORT WOMEN'S CLUB

The Frankfort Women's Club was organized April 28, 1917, under the name of the Frankfort Home Improvement Club with an enrollment of ten members. Mrs. James W. Owen was elected president; Mrs. Charles Balchowsky, vice president; Mrs. Frank J. Kohlhagen, secretary; and Mrs. John M. Clark, treasurer. The objects of the society were: to promote the study of the social science of the home, to inspire culture and cordial relations among women, and to contribute to the general welfare of the community. The membership was made open and anyone in sympathy with the objectives of the society could become a member.

In August, 1918, the club changed to the Council of Defense but returned to the Home Improvement Club in the spring of 1919. In March, 1930, the name was changed to the Frankfort Women's Community Club to avoid

confliction with the Home Bureau Club and in September, 1939, the name was finally changed to the Frankfort Women's Club to eliminate confusion with other local clubs. Membership started with ten in 1917, increased gradually to thirty-four in 1921, and at present the closed membership is fifty.

The club has been active through the years in civic and charity work and has contributed to such school causes as playground equipment, school nurse, desks and decorating, as well as to benefit drives. Each boy in Service from this community is remembered at Christmas time. A public breakfast held in May each year has become a highly anticipated community event.

This thriving active club continues to maintain about the same objectives that were set forth in its early years of existence.

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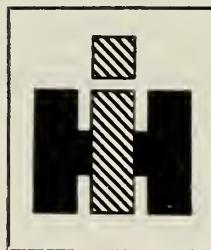
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in 1934?

THE FRANKFORT SPORTSMAN'S CLUB

The Frankfort Sportsman's Club was first organized in 1944. Club by-laws, rules, and regulations were set up to further the need for better conservation. This was the beginning of a conservation program set up for better hunting and fishing in the days to come. Looking ahead to promote better conservation for ourselves, our children, and their children was the primary goal of the Frankfort Sportsman's Club.

The Frankfort Sportsman's Club was organized for better hunting, fishing and reforestation. Protection of game and wildlife are very important to the sportsmen of this community.

Each year hundreds of pheasants are fed and released through rearing pens built and maintained by the members of the club in this community. This makes better hunting in the fall and leaves enough rearing stock in the spring. Without the help of the sportsmen this program would not be possible. To provide better fishing our streams and ponds have been

stocked. Periodical checks by the State of Illinois Fish and Game experts helps the control of overpopulation of fish. The club has a clean stream committee to see that there is no pollution emptying into our waters.

The Frankfort Sportsman's Club is affiliated with the Illinois Federation of Sportsman's Clubs co-operating with the State Department of Conservation. It is also a member of the Will County Sportsman's Clubs of which there are fifteen in all. The Will County chapter has its own private lake just south of Wilmington, Illinois. All chapters and their members affiliated with the Will County Sportsman's Club are eligible to enter this private grounds. Fishing, boating, bathing, trapshooting, target range, and dog trails are a part of this fine club. Plenty of picnic area and fireplaces are available.

The Frankfort Sportsman's Club has also been active in co-operating with local and community affairs.

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The Bobzin-Swinford Post of the American Legion and Auxiliary

Our American Legion Post was named in memory and in honor of Stanley Bobzin and Donald Swinford, who were killed in action in Germany during World War II. The American Legion Auxiliary is composed of the women having a family member in the Legion. Its purpose is to aid the Legion in carrying out the program of peacetime service to America to which the Legion is dedicated.

All of its activities are designed to promote the work of the Legion and to help it reach its objectives. Although often working independently on projects of its own, the Auxiliary has no purpose that are apart from the aims of the Legion. It is in every sense an "Auxiliary," and its members serve side by side with the men of the Legion in a spirit of unselfish devotion to the well-being of the American republic.

The Auxiliary is active in many projects both locally and in institutions connected with it. It helps care for disabled veterans and assists their families by selling poppies. Disabled men are helped to get em-

ployment and articles made by them in hospital work shops are offered to local people. It has sponsored an orphan girl at the home in Normal, Illinois, for the last five years. It puts on Bingo parties and sends food treats to the veterans hospitalized in Oak Forest and Orland Park.

From our own community each year the high school girl having the highest rating is chosen by a committee to be sent to Girls State. Other projects include the Easter egg hunt for Frankfort children, and the sending of Christmas and Easter gifts to our service men. An event we all look forward to is our progressive luncheon held annually in September.

We are very honored to have two of our members as officers of the Will County Council of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Both the Legion and its Auxiliary are very cooperative in participating in community affairs and projects.



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Frankfort School PTA



P. T. A. PRESIDENTS — 1945-1955

Rear: M. Johnson, M. Morrison, M. Weichbrodt, F. Breidert. Front: E. Engelmann, L. Folkers, N. Ferrell. Not shown: V. Wise, B. Peterson, P. Harnack.

The Frankfort School P.T.A. was organized in 1945 to make possible better understanding and cooperation between parents and teachers for the welfare of all children. The charter membership consisted of 34 parents and teachers. The first president was Mrs. Herbert Folkers. It received a superior rating on its Program Yearbook at the State Convention in 1946, an award not often won by a P.T.A. in its first year. Since then it has received several awards and recognitions of various kinds.

During its years of existence it has sponsored many worth-while projects for the benefit of the children of Frankfort School and Community. Various methods of raising funds have been used to accomplish these benefits. It has financed many necessary items for the improvement of the school when the board was not able to provide them. Its first contribution was the purchase of bookcases. From this small beginning it has gone on to the provision of portable desks, movie projectors, etc. The masterpiece to date has been the purchase and installation of an audio system for the gymnasium.

During the past year it provided weekly roller skating and monthly teen-age parties and dances. Throughout the years it has sponsored Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts.

Not only has the Frankfort P.T.A. contributed much to local affairs, but it has been very active in the Eastern Will County Area Council. Each year it sends its quota of delegates to the State Convention.

At present the enrollment consists of 112 members. Mrs. Emmanuel Engelmann is president.

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McCurie's

Frankfort Camp 6036 Royal Neighbors of America



On May 5, 1955, Past Oracle pins were presented to the following past oracles — June Nieland, Marshal; Past Oracles, Gertrude Eichmeier, Jessie E. C. Ford, Emma Scott, Lydia Vollrath, Blanche Mitchell, Louise Hostert, Hattie Baumgartner, Helen Bell, Christina Bennett; Assistant Marshal, Velma Ebert.

Frankfort Camp 6036 Royal Neighbors of America was organized in March of 1909 with twenty-five charter members. Of this original group five are still members of our camp and one has transferred to another camp. A juvenile camp has been organized and we now have a membership of 117 adult members and 49 juveniles. The present officers are: Oracle—Elsa Warning, Past Oracle—Christina Bennett, Vice Oracle—Alice Bradley, Recorder—Bertha Nieland, Receiver—Beulah Kohlhagen.

This camp has been hostess to the County Convention in 1927, 1942 and 1951. Meetings are the first Thursday of each month followed by a social hour. We donate to all charitable drives in our community.

Nine women met in Council Bluffs, Iowa, on November 28, 1888, and founded an organization destined to become Royal Neighbors of America. The organization they started met occasionally until 1889 when the club was definitely formed. The next year the name Royal Neighbors of America was adopted. Then on March 21, 1895 Royal Neighbors of America was chartered as a fraternal life insurance society and writes insurance in 42 states and District of Columbia. There are 7848 Camps with a membership of 465,000 adults and 117,500 juveniles. Frankfort Camp is a unit of this organization. All insurance is written on legal reserve plans. The National Headquarters is at Rock Island, Illinois. They maintain a lovely home for the aged at Davenport, Iowa.

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THE AMITE CLUB



Seated in front row, left to right: Myrtle Gullicksen, Clara Pfeifer, Minnie Elsner, Elizabeth Wischover, and Hilda Lambrecht. Standing, left to right: Mary Pfaff, Lu Breidert, Viola Lankenau, Elonore Weitendorf, Beth Heisner, Edith Heusner, Beulah Kohlhagen and Elsa Warning.

The Amite Club, a French name meaning friendship, was organized by Mrs. Minnie Elsner on March 24, 1915, with twelve members. Meetings are held every two weeks in the members' homes.

During the years the Club has supported the Red Cross, March of Dimes and the "Thousand Club" of the Evangelical and Reformed Church of Frankfort. It also has packed Care Boxes for overseas, made layettes and quilts for the Red Cross. Christmas Baskets were given to the needy and Christmas gift were sent to members' sons in the service of our country.

At these bi-monthly meetings Cancer Dressings have been made and recently the Club has helped with the making of the Centennial Dolls.

This year the Club is celebrating it's 40th Anniversary.

WELCOME
to the
Frankfort Centennial

◆

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From "Hello-Girl" to Dial . . .

Since the Turn of the Century Frankfort's Telephones and Telephone People Have Served Well

Sadie Damman Widup remembers very well the exact date that telephone service started in Frankfort.

"It was September 1, 1901," she said, "and we had six subscribers connected to the switchboard, which had been set up in the second floor corner room of the hotel."

Mrs. Widup, who lives in Plainfield now, remembers that the telephone became popular very quickly around the Frankfort area. From those first six telephones in 1901, the system grew to more than 360 'phones in 1910, when Sadie left to become a full-time homemaker and raise a family.

"Frank Folkers was the manager in those days, and his brother, Peter, was the "trouble-shooter," keeping the telephone equipment and miles of lines in working order. The Folkers boys, as a matter of fact, were the ones who really started telephone service in Frankfort. They put up the first wires, and poles and equipment, and ran the system for years."

There had been telephones in Frankfort a year earlier, when the Chicago Heights Telephone Company established an "exchange" and toll-center in town. But there were never more than a half-dozen phones connected to this system.

The telephone company which hired Sadie Damman and made her Frankfort's first telephone operator was called the Northwestern. A few years after its forming, it became part of the Interstate Independent Telephone system, which served several communities in northern and central Illinois.

In 1905, Frank Folkers' daughter, Mabel, came to work as night operator, to help Sadie with the rapidly increasing number of subscribers. Mabel Folkers served Frankfort on the switchboard for sixteen years. She's Mabel Knuteson now and lives on Maple Street.

As the number of telephone subscribers in Frankfort grew, more space was needed for the enlarging switchboard equipment. The operators and their equipment moved several times — to the second floor of the meat market building next to the Folkers Hotel on Kansas Street, and then again to across the hall in the same building.

Around 1920, Mildred Walsh joined the team of operators who manned the switchboard for Frankfort on a around - the - clock basis. She is still in the telephone business — now serving as Assistant Chief Operator at the Harvey Exchange of



Geneva Klepper Grendheim (L) and Mildred Walsh Turner, talk about the old Frankfort telephone days, at luncheon marking Geneva's 30 years as a telephone operator.



Mabel Folkers and Sadie Damman (L-R) watching the Frankfort switchboard about 1905. Sadie, now Mrs. Widup of Plainfield, was our town's first "Hello-Girl." Mabel Knuteson lives in town today.



Frankfort's first telephone exchange was located on the second floor of the Folkers Hotel, off the balcony. About 1905.

Illinois Bell Telephone Company. She is Mildred Turner now, and lives in Oak Lawn.

Another Frankfort operator who stayed in the telephone family is Geneva Klepper, who became a Frankfort operator in 1925, when Mildred Walsh was chief operator. Now Geneva Grendheim, she lives on Maple Street.

In 1919, the Interstate Independent company was having difficulties, and sold out its holdings, including the Frankfort telephone system, to the Chicago Telephone Company, which later became Illinois Bell.

In 1940, the dial telephone came to Frankfort. For thirty-nine years before that, Frankfort phones had been of the "crank" variety. When Illinois Bell established the Frankfort Community Dial exchange which stands in its neat red brick building on Nebraska Street, they brought to the town a modern communication system equal to the best in the world. There are now over 700 telephones served by the Frankfort dial system, and it is still growing.

Mildred Turner and Geneva Grendheim recently lunched together, to celebrate a special occasion — Geneva's 30th year as a telephone operator. They spent most of the time talking over those days when the life threads of Frankfort were woven through their switchboard.

To Mildred, Geneva, Mabel, Sadie, and the Folkers brothers — and all the many others who have manned the telephone lines that have helped Frankfort grow and prosper — we can only say — well done!



EARLY FRANKFORT FIRSTS

FIRST RAILROAD: The Joliet & Northern Indiana
in 1855



FIRST TOWN PLAT by S. W. Bowen

FIRST STORE & POSTOFFICE kept by N. A. Carpenter
(the building is now Mark's Grocery.)

FIRST GRAIN ELEVATOR erected by N. A. Carpenter in 1855
at the side of the Michigan Central

FIRST VILLAGE PRESIDENT: John McDonald

FIRST SCHOOL built in 1856, on the present site of the residence of the late Ben Mager

FIRST SCHOOL TEACHER: Lizzie Kent

FIRST CHURCH: Methodist Church built in 1856
located at Hickory and Nebraska Street

FIRST FIRE DEPARTMENT: 1884

FIRST FIRE CHIEF: Herb McDonald



FIRST ELECTRICITY supplied in 1913

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